

NORTHROP DANCE PRESENTS THEATRICAL EXTRAVAGANZA *THE WHIZ: MONEYAPOLIS*



FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN BECOME SOCIALLY SAVVY



LORING KITCHEN AND BAR SERVES SUPERLATIVE FOOD AND DRINKS

LAVENDER®

Since 1995

SPRING GARDENING

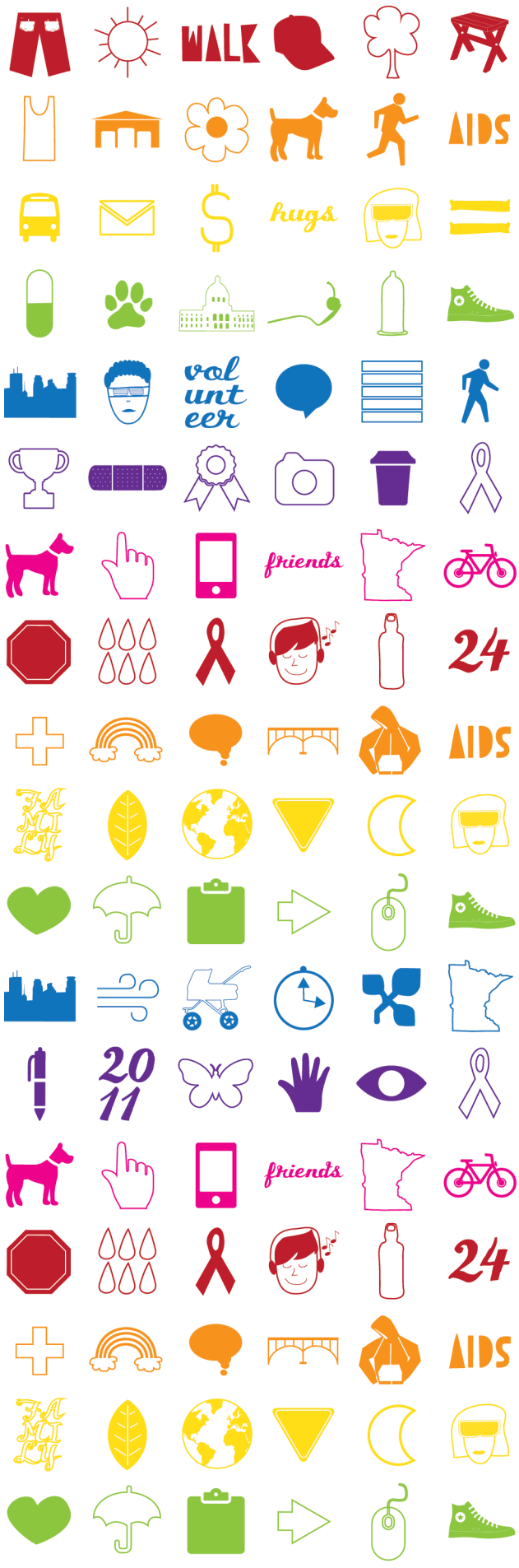
4 RESOURCES HELP YOUR GREEN THUMB + EXPERT GIVES ONGOING TIPS

◀ Scan for Digital Edition

Volume 16, Issue 415
Display Minnesota's GLBT Magazine
From April 21 Until May 4, 2011

Available on the App Store

★ 28,290 OF YOU FOLLOW BIGGAYNEWS ON twitter



2011 Minnesota AIDS Walk Sunday May 15

We've added a mini health fair to our 24th annual AIDS Walk - including HIV testing in Minnehaha Park for the very first time.

Health Fair Participants

AMC The Doctors • Walgreens • Rainbow Health Initiative
HIV Testing by Minnesota AIDS Project staff



After the Walk, stay in the Park for an afternoon of musical entertainment brought to you by Rock the Cause.

Event Lineup

Not Like This • Alison Scott • The Alarmists • Far From Falling



Schedule for the Day

9:00 a.m.	Run for the Ribbon
10:00 a.m.	Opening Ceremonies
11:00 a.m.	24th Annual Minnesota AIDS Walk
12:30 p.m.	Post-Walk Celebration Concert

www.mnaidswalk.org

2011 MN AIDS WALK

©2011 R.J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO.

BREAK FREE®



NOW PREMIERING

SNUS MINT

Camel SNUS Mint is making its exclusive debut in your city. Enjoy all the **smoke-free, spit-free, drama-free** tobacco pleasure, with a refreshingly crisp, new mint flavor.

Celebrate your own grand opening with a tin of **Camel SNUS Mint** today.

camelsnus.com*

*WEBSITE RESTRICTED TO AGE 21+ TOBACCO CONSUMERS.

SNUS

WARNING: This product can cause gum disease and tooth loss.

LAVENDER®

APRIL 21-MAY 4, 2011 | ISSUE 415 | SPRING GARDENING

CONTENTS

A Word in Edgewise 8
Bits and Pieces 9
Letters 10
Glimpses 12
Cover Feature: Spring Gardening ... 14
NEW Gardening 16
Passing 19

NEWS

PFund Promotions 22
Big Gay News 24

ARTS

Jeffrey 26
Spotlight 28
Books 32
The Whiz: Moneyapolis 32

OUT ON THE TOWN

Calendar 36
Advertiser Guide 38
Bar: Bartender 38
Bar: Showcase 40
Bar: Lavender Lens 42
Pool League Tournament
Food: Restaurant 44
Food: Bites 46
Sugar & Spice 48
NEW Socially Savvy 49

LEISURE

Travel 50
Sports 52

Lavender Lens: 54
HRC Bowling for Equality
Business Profile 56
Consider the Source 58
Dateland 60
Cartoon: Trolín 60
Ms. Behavior 64
Through These Eyes 66

ON THE COVER
Neil Imsdahl from Linder's Garden Center.
Photo by Hubert Bonnet


Photo by Hubert Bonnet
14


16
Photo Courtesy of Scott Endres


Photo by Hubert Bonnet
44


50
Photo by T. Sanson

ONLINE



CHECK OUT
OUR LAVENDER DIGITAL EDITION AT LAVENDERMAGAZINE.COM



TO WIN PRIZES EVERY ISSUE!
GO TO WWW.LAVENDERMAGAZINE.COM/CATEGORY/CONTESTS-AND-PROMOTIONS/

WandaWisdom.com
THE ORIGINAL PODCASTING DRAG QUEEN

Wanda's Got Big Bloopers!
Head on over to Wanda's YouTube site (http://youtube.com/wandawisdom) and check out the brand-new wacky blooper reel from Wanda's holiday video, A Christmas Wanda! And while you're there, check out the other 30 some videos your favorite podcasting drag queen has uploaded!

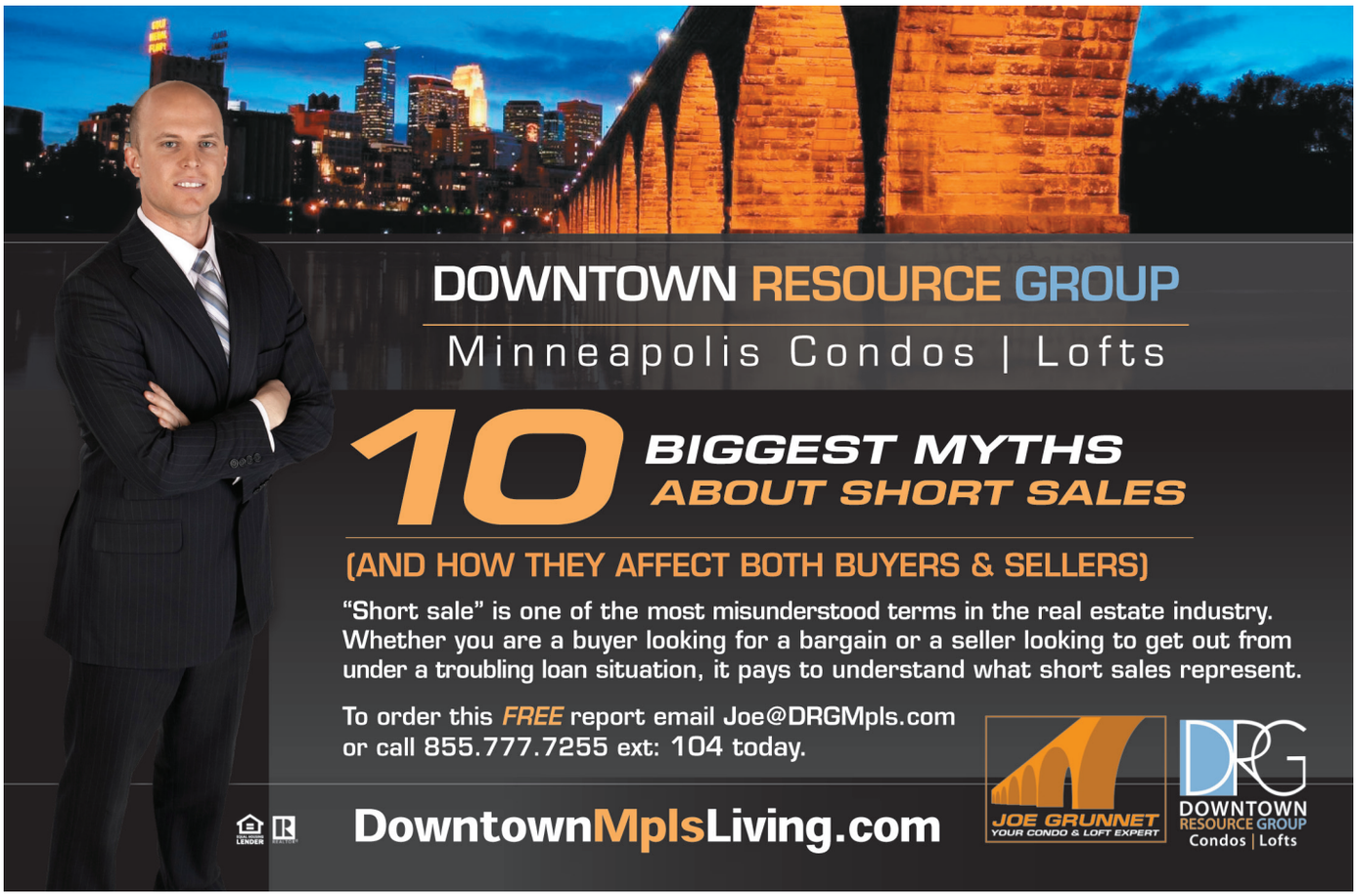


BigGayNews.com
YOUR DAILY PODCAST OF GLBT WORLD NEWS!

Top Headlines
- ✓ Delaware City Elects State's First Openly Gay Mayor
- ✓ Transgender City Manager Accused of Anti-Gay Bias
- ✓ Chris Armstrong Sues Andrew Shirvell for Stalking
- ✓ Arkansas Court Strikes Down Gay Adoption Ban

DIGITAL EXTRA: DINING GUIDE

LAV415_p3_18.indd 4 4/15/11 3:00 PM



ARRESTED?
call JEFF DEAN
Defense Attorney

(612) 305-4360 • www.jeffdeanlaw.com

- Has won multiple criminal sexual conduct dismissals
- Represented hundreds of people charged with DWI
- Other Wins: Assault/Domestic Assault, Indecent Exposure, Drug Charges, Theft Charges, Internet Solicitation, Pornography Charges
- Dismissals and Acquittal in Crosby Park Sex Sting



His winning record has made Jeff Dean a name you can trust.

LAV415_p3_18.indd 5 4/15/11 3:00 PM

Looking for a way to save?

You need to insure both your auto and your home, so why not save money in the process? Call today for a free, no obligation look at auto and home discounts from American Family.



AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE®
All your protection under one roof®

EQUAL HOUSING INSURER

American Family Mutual Insurance Company and its Subsidiaries
American Standard Insurance Company of Wisconsin
Home Office - Madison, WI 53783
American Family Insurance Company
American Standard Insurance Company of Ohio
Home Office - Columbus, OH 43240
www.amfam.com © 2008

Dawn Bartell Agency
4649 Bloomington Avenue
Minneapolis, MN
dbartell@amfam.com
612.333.5554





You've been through an accident. We've been through



MAPLEWOOD 651-766-9770
LAKEVILLE 952-985-5855
RICHFIELD 612-866-0016
EDEN PRAIRIE 952-941-5586
BURNSVILLE 952-898-1636
BLOOMINGTON 952-767-3399

LaMettry's™
Premier Collision Shops

No time to stop for our free estimates? Go to **www.lamettrys.com** 24/7 to receive an estimate via email.

LAVENDER®

Volume 16, Issue 415 • April 21–May 4, 2011

Editorial

Editor Emeritus Ethan Boatner 612-436-4670
Editorial Director George Holdgrafer 612-436-4672
Editorial Associate Sede Vacante 612-436-4671
Copy Editor Bridget Rocheford-Kearney
Volunteer Kaitlyn E. Walsh
Podmaster Bradley Traynor 612-436-4669
Contributors Brian Cheese, Meryl Cohn, Julie Dafydd, Scott Endres, Heidi Fellner, Terrance Griep, Chris Homan, Ed Huyck, Justin Jones, Steve Lenius, Jennifer Parello, Edward Piechowski & Sean Ryan, Abigail Stoddard, John Townsend, Carla Waldemar

Advertising

Sales & Advertising Director Barry Leavitt 612-436-4690
Senior Account Executive Suzanne Farrell 612-436-4699
Account Executives Scott Belcher 612-436-4675, Adam Houghtaling 612-436-4697
Advertising Associate George Holdgrafer 612-436-4672
Sales & Advertising Traffic Coordinator Linda Raines 612-436-4694
Classifieds Suzanne Farrell 612-436-4699
National Sales Representative Rivendell Media 212-242-6863

Creative

Creative Director Hubert Bonnet 612-436-4678
Creative Assistant Mike Hnida 612-436-4679
Photographer Sophia Hantzes
Cartoonist Rodro
Lavender Studios Hubert Bonnet, Mike Hnida

Administration

Publisher Lavender Media, Inc.
President & CEO Stephen Rocheford 612-436-4665
Vice President & CC Pierre Tardif 612-436-4666
Chief Financial Officer Carolyn Lima 612-436-4664
Administrative Assistant Austin Lindstrom 612-436-4661
Founders George Holdgrafer, Stephen Rocheford
Inspiration Steven W. Anderson (1954-1994), Timothy J. Lee (1968-2002), Russell Berg (1957-2005), Kathryn Rocheford (1914-2006), Jonathan Halverson (1974-2010)

Send all your calendar events to Linda@lavendermagazine.com

Letters are subject to editing for grammar, punctuation, space, and libel. They should be no more than 300 words. Letters must include name, address, and phone number. Unsigned letters will not be published. Priority will be given to letters that refer to material previously published in Lavender Magazine. Submit letters to Lavender Magazine, Letters to the Editor, 3715 Chicago Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55407; or e-mail <editor@lavendermagazine.com>.

Lavender Media Inc.
3715 Chicago Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55407
LavenderYellowPages.com
612-436-4660 **office**
877-515-9969 **toll free**
612-436-4685 **fax**
612-436-4664 **subscriptions**
612-436-4660 **distribution**
612-436-4698 **advertising**

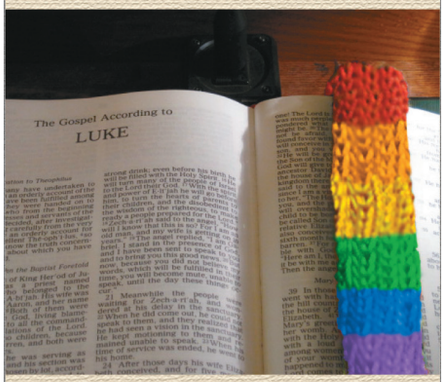
LAVENDER MAGAZINE.COM LavenderMagazine.com
BIG GAY NEWS.COM BigGayNews.com
WandaWisdom.com

Audit Bureau of Circulations Member
MMPA
GANNETT OFFSET Printer of Lavender and USA Today (763) 315-7725

Entire contents copyright 2011. All rights reserved. Publication of the name or photograph of any person, organization, or business in this magazine does not reflect upon one's sexual orientation whatsoever. Lavender® Magazine reserves the right to refuse any advertising. This issue of Lavender® Magazine is available free of charge during the time period published on the cover. Pickup at one of our distribution sites is limited to one copy per person.

LAV415_p3_18.indd 6 4/15/11 3:00 PM

YOU.
CHURCH?
EASTER SUNDAY.



Find a Welcome
and New Beginnings
at
Central Presbyterian Church
Downtown St. Paul, 500 Cedar Street
10:30 am Worship Service
651.224.4728 • cpcstpaul.org
Free parking at World Trade Center Ramp



BANKRUPTCY
"Personal Attention – Professional Results"
Free Consultation • Affordable Fees
BECKY A. MOSHIER
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
651.645.1211
2233 University Ave. W. Ste. 420 • St. Paul
10 minutes to Downtown Minneapolis or St. Paul
In my 21st year of service to our community.
We are a debt relief agency. We help people file for relief under the Bankruptcy Code.
www.beckymoshier.com

Every decision we make has financial ramifications.
When you need professional help, we understand. We talk with the IRS so you don't have to. We have been preparing all types of taxes current and back taxes for over 20 years. We also provide Business Consulting and Certified Financial Planning with NO Product sales.



KAREN R. PALM CPA
612-379-1393
www.palmkcpa.com

At East 42nd Street Salon
we care about your look.



Let us help you put more
SPRING in your do!
42nd e
www.e42salon.com
east 42nd street salon
612 729 4415
4805 Nicollet Ave S MINNEAPOLIS MN 55419

ZERONA®
Non-Invasive Body Slimming
Reveal
your true shape.





Dr. Vicky Hagstrom
"My Patients' Smiles are my greatest reward"

ANEW
AESTHETIC
MEDICAL CENTER

ZERONA® is the only clinically-proven body slimming treatment that removes fat and reduces inches with ZERO Pain, ZERO Surgery, and ZERO Downtime.

Look Better. Feel Better. Be Better.

Call for complimentary consultation.

ANew Aesthetic Medical Center
120 6th Street South #175
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402
(612) 208-0741
www. anewmedicalcenter.com
DOWNTOWN LOCATION SKYWAY CONNECTED

LAV415_p3_18.indd 7 4/15/11 3:00 PM

A WORD IN EDGEWISE | by E.B. Boatner



Plus Ça Change…

TO AVOID THE overwhelming bad news greeting me daily—heartbreaking stories from Japan; horrendous portents in government; Michele Bachmann abroad in the nation—I've immersed myself in reading C.J. Sansom's superb historical crime series set in Tudor England. The 16th Century, I reasoned, should be far enough removed to do the trick.

But no. Sansom's protagonist, lawyer Matthew Shardlake, is a fine man in a falling time, but his world is all too familiar: internecine struggles between the now-forbidden Catholic belief and Protestants, and among the intransigent Protestant sects themselves; Jews and Muslims as personae non grata; dwindling succor for the poor and homeless; widespread political corruption and heavy penalties for almost anything. Here, "torturer" is a job description.

Then, I was sent a piece on a "Gay" Caveman. Fascinating, but wrongly and sensationally handled in the popular press reminiscent of the way Sansom depicted superstition, rumor, and ignorance in 1537, when Londoners first encountered talking parrots.

The Caveman must be "Gay," according to the press, because his skeleton was laid out on his left side, like women in that culture, and surrounded by pottery, rather than weapons and tools, as were men.

The interment took place 2,900-2,500 BC, a few thousand—maybe tens of thousands of—years more recent than erroneous "caveman" perceptions. Cuneiform writing and pyramids existed, though not near present-day Prague, where the "Gay" Caveman was found.

After the initial flap, some pointed out that there was no way to determine the individual's sexuality. Writer Jenny Wilson via *LiveScience* mentioned that early peoples often recognized gender differences, and treated the individual accordingly.

Having viewed a photo of the skeleton in situ, I found it interesting to note that the bones looked to be adult, intact, and respectfully-positioned with the goods he would need for the afterlife.

My unsupported conclusion is that whoever he was, the man had some place and functions in his community, lived peacefully with his people, and was laid to rest among them in death.

It seems that our own society has less acceptance and empathy than this early group for gender/sexual variance, and has traveled marginally farther from the Tudor Era, mainly in contriving to live longer so as to beleaguer even more people with rumor, factionalism, and intransigence. □

For fifteen years The Harbor Group has been navigating our community through current legal and financial systems that impact *your* family.



Full Financial & Legal planning for the GLBT community.

The Harbor Group, Inc.
An Independent Financial and Legal Firm
200 Village Center Drive, Suite 700
North Oaks, MN 55127
651-633-5611
www.harborgroupcommunity.com

Securities offered through Harbour Investments, Inc.
Member FINRA/SIPC



Pride Talent
Acquisition

Information Technology & Professional Staffing



www.pridetalentacq.com
612-234-1782
A certified LGBT Business Enterprise

LAV415_p3_18.indd 8 4/15/11 3:00 PM

Thanks for Listening to the *Original* Podcasting Drag Queen

My name is Wanda Wisdom. I'm a 35-year-old, sober podcasting drag queen hostess with the most-est. In fact, I'm the *original* Podcasting Drag Queen.

Six years ago in March, I started recording my random audio ramblings in a dank, dark basement with nothing more than a $20 microphone from Radio Shack and a very tragic little desktop PC.

I learned everything I needed to know about the then-pioneering medium of podcasting from a bloated lesbian named Madge Weinstein—visit <YeastRadio.com>.

I built up a small but loyal audience of a couple hundred people from around the world—that is, until the folks at Apple came along, and added podcasts to the Tunes store. Overnight, my audience sextupled. How many of you have an audience, much less one that sextuples?

A little more than a year later, I was podcasting live from a brand new boudoir at Lavender Media. Sure, I still was podcasting from a basement, but this one had carpet and track lighting.

As the years passed, I podcasted all over the place, interviewing celebrities, walking the streets of Minneapolis, and yammering on into the Interwebs.

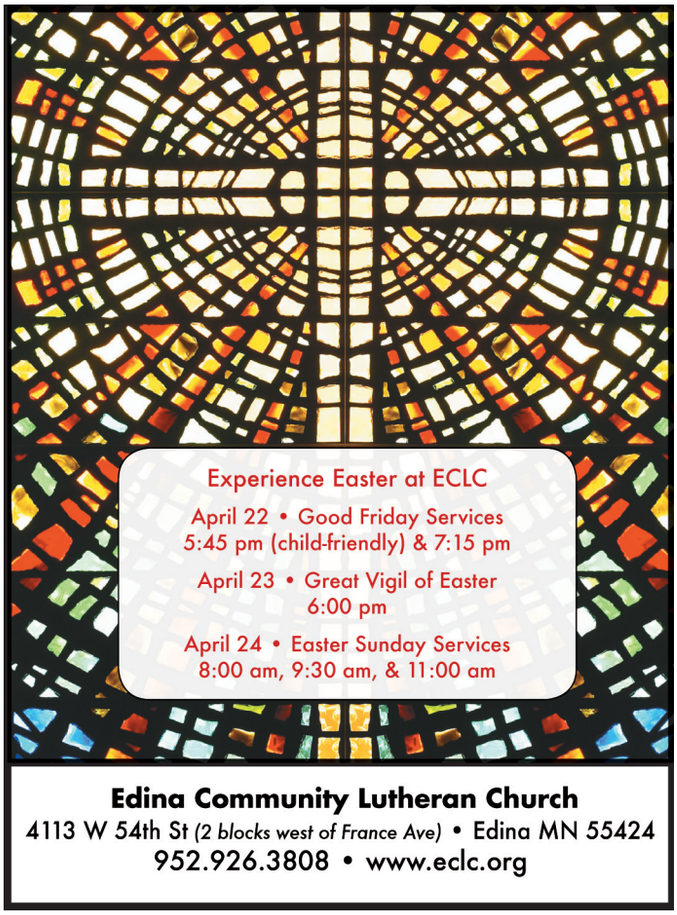
I've met the most amazing and randomly-delightful people, made silly movies, and even waved to adoring fans atop a party bus during the Pride Parade.

I've seen a lot. I've learned a lot. But you know the one thing that marvels me most about the past six years? My listeners. My lucky lady listeners (I call 'em all ladies, even the straight guys) have been with me through thick and thin. Literally.

They were there when I was fat. They were there when I was in the gym six days a week. They listened through my breakups, career changes, and every wacky moment along the way. They continue to listen, no matter my topics, no matter my mood. When I'm down, they send encouragement. When I reach new heights, they're there to slap me a great big high-five.

I'm not sure I ever have been able to express adequately the level of gratitude I feel for my listeners. They, more than anyone else, have helped me find my voice, and made it possible for me to follow my dreams.

As I enter my seventh year of podcasting, let me dedicate my work to them—to you. Now, let's get back to the boudoir, and record another podcast! □





LAV415_p3_18.indd 9 4/15/11 3:00 PM

jewelry
home
chocolate
max's
www.StyleByMax.com
we moved!
Shops at Excelsior & Grand
3826 Grand Way, St. Louis Park
952.922.8364
ring by FullertonBahr
18k gold, silver, diamond and garnet

Raising Voices for Social Justice!
7:30 PM
April 30
Photo by Paul Nixdorf
Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church
511 Groveland Ave.
A Benefit Concert
for the Dignity Center
Reception to follow. Suggested
$25 tax-deductible donation
The Dignity Center
Twin Cities
Gay men's chorus
ENTERTAINMENT WORTH COMING OUT FOR!
The Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus, celebrating its 30th year, is a dynamic choral leader changing lives through the performance of significant music. Choral singing is an art form that can build bridges. They will be joined in concert with special guest Hennepin Chime. The Dignity Center serves thousands of homeless and those in need throughout the Metro area, providing continuous support, counseling, resources, and opportunities as clients regain stability and move toward self-sufficiency.
HENNEPINCHURCH.ORG 612-871-5303



THANKS FROM WINNING MARRIAGE EQUALITY

Just a note to thank *Lavender* Magazine, and specifically writer Kaitlyn E. Walsh, for the great article on Winning Marriage Equality in the March 10 issue. It focused on our mission, and was not a feature about me. I so appreciate how well you put our mission into print. Thanks again for the great job that you and your staff do.

DENNY SMITH
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
WINNING MARRIAGE EQUALITY

KUDOS FROM LAS VEGAS

Hi! I'm a transplanted Minnesotan, actually from up on "da Range" (the Iron Range), now living in Las Vegas. I think you "guys" do a wonderful job, and I totally love reading my *Lavender*! You all keep me in touch with "home," and I do appreciate it greatly. I love your restaurant reviews, even though I'm down here in the desert. Keep up the great work.

KEN SWARTZ

DOESN'T FIT LAVENDER DEMOGRAPHIC

I *have* noticed over the last several years that there has been less and less of interest for me in *Lavender*. Now, I realize why. I'm a renter. I'm retired (i.e., old). And though I don't consider myself poor, I live on way less than $89,996. And let's not forget, I'm a woman. I guess there's no need to keep picking up *Lavender* religiously. Now that I know I'm not part of your target demographic, that whole lack-of-relevance thing makes so much more sense.

DJ MUNRO

LAV415_p3_18.indd 10 4/15/11 3:01 PM



Why can't HIV be cured?

Researchers from the Division of Infectious Diseases at the University of Minnesota are looking for HIV+ and HIV- people to participate in research studies.

The aim of these studies is to find out why HIV persists and can't be cured with HIV drugs.

You do not need to be on HIV drugs to qualify.

Several opportunities are available and depending upon the study, you may be started on HIV drugs or your current drug regimen may be adjusted. Compensation and time requirements vary based on the study for which you may qualify.

If you are interested in participating, have any questions, or would like more information about current studies, visit **www.hiv.umn.edu or call 612-625-7472**

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

LAV415_p3_18.indd 11 4/15/11 3:01 PM

GLIMPSES

by George Holdgrafer





1 Slow Mo Benefits Trans Youth Support Network

On February 12, Slow Mo was held as an alternative and safe fundraiser for the Trans Youth Support Network (TYSN). Thanks to organizer Katie Delaney, more than 300 participants enjoyed a romantic evening at The Exchange, 3405 Chicago Avenue South, Minneapolis. TYSN is a partnership of youth and community members working together to support trans youth in Minnesota.

Photo by Sophia Hantzes

2 Txuj Ci Showcases Hmong LGBTQA Arts and Talents

In partnership with the GLBTQ Programs Office at the University of Minnesota, Shades of Yellow (SOY), along with many other amazing artists, showcased Hmong LGBTQA arts and talents at Txuj Ci on March 2 at Coffman Union on the U of M campus. The event featured art and music, as well as, for the first time, a queer fashion design collection.

Photo by Sophia Hantzes

SHOWPLACE ICON MINNEAPOLIS

CUTTING-EDGE DIGITAL SIGHT & SOUND

NO PRE-SHOW ADVERTISING

RESERVED SEATING IN EVERY AUDITORIUM

LOBBY LOUNGE FOR ALL GUESTS 21+

MOVIEGOINGREDEFINED

1625 west end boulevard • the shops at west end
(612) 568 . 0375 • showplaceicon.com

EVENINGS AT THE ICON

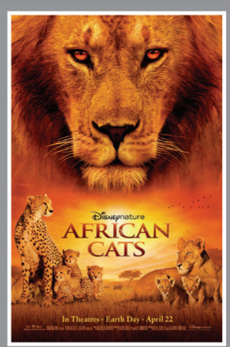
$7.50 icon reserved seating

join us every monday through thursday, 8:30pm and later for evenings at the icon with $7.50 icon reserved admission. premium experience surcharge applies to vip 21+ and real-d 3d.

SIP | SAVOR | SEE

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK.
FOLLOW US ON TWITTER.

OPENING THIS FRIDAY, APRIL 22







pre-order your tickets and choose your seats online now.

PREPARE FOR SOMETHING EXTRA

$6 MOVIES

ALL NEW EXTRAS BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- *Select* titles for members-only are just $6 *with card* – any day, any time
  ADDITIONAL PREMIUM EXPERIENCE SURCHARGE APPLIES FOR ALL REAL-D 3D TITLES
- Free refill on all sizes of popcorn, soda, and ICEE®
  SAME DAY, SAME VISIT ONLY
- Free VIP Upgrades Monday through Thursday with card – including holidays
- $5 EXTRAS Matinee Combo featuring a small popcorn and a small soda
  AVAILABLE DURING MATINEE HOURS ONLY

JOIN FOR FREE

Register *online only* at showplaceicon.com & pick up your EXTRAS Card at the guest services desk.

LAV415_p3_18.indd 12 4/15/11 3:01 PM

Artistic Landscapes Inc.
Design and Construction

Passionate about Landscaping!



Designing & Installing Beautiful Landscapes Since 1998

Complimentary consultation when you mention you found us in Lavender Magazine.

Christopher A. Baker
612-366-5444
ArtisticLandscapes.biz

SERVICE AND EXPERTISE SINCE 1978
FREE IN-HOME CONSULTATIONS
17 8th Ave. S. • Hopkins
952-935-4353
www.LittleBlindSpot.com
LITTLE BLIND SPOT



Vignette® Traditional Shades
HunterDouglas

COME SEE US FOR Special Gift Ideas



- Unique Gifts
- Extraordinary Container Gardens
- Exceptional quality and variety of plants
- Distinctive pots and containers from around the world
- Gift Cards

Linder's
Garden Center, Flower Marts & Landscaping
270 West Larpenteur Avenue
St. Paul | 651.488.1927
Visit us at Linders.com for more information.

Building LIFESTYLE



Photography by Troy Thies



Building and remodeling unique Twin Cities homes for over 30 years.

VUJOVICH
DESIGN • BUILD
612-338-2020
www.vujovich.com

SALA
Architects Inc.

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

LAV415_p3_18.indd 13 4/15/11 3:01 PM

FOUR RESOURCES
HELP YOUR GREEN THUMB

It's that time again—the sun is shining, the breezes wafting. Your burgeoning yard is calling you. But to do what?

You've been at gardening catalogs since you turned your clocks back last fall. Armed with plans, you know what you want, precisely where you intend to set it in the earth, and what you expect to emerge.

What about the more timorous or less-knowledgeable? They see their grounds not as a challenge to be surmounted, but as a wiley foe, daring them to penetrate its legions of stones, and delve into its too-acid/too-basic earth.

Coming to the rescue, four local resources share some seasonal comments for every gardener on the circle.



Photo Courtesy of Matt's Tree Service



Photo Courtesy of Tree Protection Project

MATT'S TREE SERVICE

If you've got a tree emergency, Matt Dosser, owner of Matt's Tree Service (MTS), is ready for your call, 24-7. His arboricultural team has served the Twin Cities area for more than 14 years, taking pride in a record of safety, efficiency, and environmental preservation.

Dosser, who emphasizes that, like your pets, your trees need ongoing care, attention, and supervision, points out, "They are the largest piece of landscape you own."

The more effort you put into maintenance of your trees, the longer you will be able to enjoy their gifts of shade, beauty, and in some instances fruits.

Fully-bonded, insured, and licensed, MTS provides a full spectrum of pruning, trimming, tree and stump removal, and inspection for destructive insects.

Dosser notes, "We encourage our customers, whether current or potential, to come to us with questions or concerns about their trees. Our hotline is always open in case of emergency, and our team is ready at all times to professionally deal with any situation."

For the heretofore-untreed, Dosser cautions, "New homeowners should look for cracks in trees or supporting cables—both signs that a tree has issues."

One final, important caveat from Dosser for the eager digger: "Don't plant trees near power lines."

Matt's Tree Service
(612) 706-8210
http://www.mattstreeservice.us

TREE PROTECTION PROJECT

Philip Klocksien, a consulting forester and owner of Tree Protection Project, is an International Society of Arboriculture-certified arborist and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)-certified tree inspector who also works with urban clients.

Klocksien states, "As a DNR plan preparer, I contract to assist woodland owners in tree planting, selective tree harvest, and trail-building. Participants in the Forest Stewardship Program receive tax benefits for managing their land."

"I diagnose insect and disease problems, and make recommendations for proper care. I assess for structural and decay issues, and recommend proper pruning to improve trees' health.

Klocksien relates, "My biggest challenge is helping clients understand and cope with emerald ash borer, a 'new' insect which has found its way here from Eurasia."

Stressing the importance of accurate information, Klocksien explains, "Often, chemicals only treat the symptom. Unless one truly understands the workings of the forest, it is impossible to understand trees in a yard context.

"Much of the metro and outstate areas are forested, and your quality of life will really suffer when trees suffer. Tree-hugger or not, we all breathe the oxygen trees provide, and you can't get more dependent than that."

Tree Protection Project
(651) 387-4512
treeguyphilip@msn.com

LAV415_p3_18.indd 14 4/15/11 3:01 PM

WAGNER'S GREENHOUSES



Photos by Hubert Bonnet





Nola Wagner, President of Wagner's Greenhouses, a family-owned business now operating in the fifth generation at the same location, advises, "The beginning gardener should start small, and pick a sunny area if possible where the soil drains well. Pick good-quality plants from a reputable garden center where the personnel will suggest the correct plants for your garden's area, light requirements, how often to water and fertilize."

During the year, Wagner's offers seminars on different gardening subjects: houseplants, terrariums, pots of Christmas greens, and herb gardening.

Wagner adds, "Besides your local garden center, there is a world of information online and at the library. Check and see what your neighbors are growing, too."

Take heart, for, according to Wagner, "It is never too late to start planning a garden. The timing just suggests different plants for that time of the year. It is always good to draw a plan with dimensions, and bring it to the garden center for suggestions."

For those who don't have a yard, Wagner's offers numerous indoor ivies, orchids, succulents and cacti, begonias, African violets, jade plants, and more.

Wagner counsels, "Pick what you like, and ask questions!"

Best of all, Wagner enthuses, "Gardening is great exercise, while offering a feeling of well-being. It's wonderful therapy for the soul!"

Wagner's Greenhouse
6024 Penn Ave. S., Mpls.
(612) 922-6901
www.wagners.biz

LINDER'S GREENHOUSE AND GARDEN CENTER



Photos by Hubert Bonnet





In 1910, Albert Linder started Linder's Greenhouse and Garden Center, providing celery and other produce. Times changed, and he introduced flowers, phasing out vegetables altogether. Today, his four grandchildren continue to hew to the family's high standards of quality, proud of the Lindner name and place in the community.

Mark Armstead, Linder's Assistant Manager and greenhouse grower, remarks, "Our staff are consummate plant geeks, and will typically tell you what their favorite plants are and why. We are here to pass on our passion for gardening."

Armstead urges clients, "Bring in photos, simple diagrams, or sketches. We need to know space requirements, and where the sun flows through your yard. We also have a complete landscape service that will do anything from consulting to full-blown scale planning to full installation."

More specifically, Armstead suggests, "Buy plants that may have a dual purpose. Maybe they attract wildlife—birds or butterflies—that you can watch all summer. Look for plants that may provide different textures. Maybe the new foliage comes out a different color, and changes as it matures."

Founder Albert Linder would marvel at the present greenhouse's online capabilities: "Plant Search" to stock your dream garden; "Lill's Garden Blog"; and much more. □

Linder's Greenhouse
270 W. Larpenteur Ave., St. Paul
(651) 730-0515
www.linders.com

LAV415_p3_18.indd 15 4/15/11 3:02 PM



A WHOLE LOT OF PLANTS ARE OUT THERE

IT OFTEN ASTONISHES me to see the sheer diversity of plants available to us here in the Upper Midwest. One would think that the combination of severe winters, often-hot summers, and short growing season would limit the Minnesota gardener. However, it is really quite the opposite, and certainly not the case for us at Tangletown Gardens.

We get energized by the plethora of options the plant kingdom provides us each season—it's our livelihood, our passion. Tangletown Gardens co-owner Dean Engleman and I like to push the envelope with what we offer our guests, while helping to achieve the garden of their dreams. The pursuit of interesting plants for our gardens is part of the fun of what we do, and keeps people coming back again and again—like kids to a candy store.

Every year, triggered by demand, a never-ending stream of new introductions and improved cultivars of old standbys flood the market. Science and advances in plant genetics have paved the way for this superhighway of plants never before available.

We offered several thousand annual, perennial, and woody plant varieties last season at Tangletown Gardens, plus a thousand or more vegetable and herb varieties, as starter plants at the garden center, or planted out in our fields for our CSA members. We'll have even more varieties on the horizon this spring.

It is easy to get excited about the newest fabulous cultivar, but is the latest always the greatest? Not always. After all, the power of the airbrush and the printed word in a glossy advertisement can be deceiving at the very least—and often persuasive enough to make us race to the garden center to buy what we expect to bring everything short of nirvana to our garden.

Do these wonder plants work wonders? Does it matter? Isn't the pursuit of perfect plants for our gardens part of the fun of gardening?

We think so, and attempt to eliminate the varieties that don't make the cut, while always trying new plants. A lot of plant options are out there for you to discover. Have fun with it, and don't be afraid to try something new.

In future *Lavender* garden articles, I hope to share firsthand my knowledge of plants and design, along with the lessons I have learned along the way, but most importantly, to inspire you to pick up the trowel, and celebrate the beauty of plants and gardening. After all, the great diversity of plants today makes this an exciting time to be a gardener. □

Scott Endres is co-owner of Tangletown Gardens in Minneapolis. Visit <www.tangletowngardens.com>. His every-other-issue garden article will appear in Lavender *throughout the year.*

Photos Courtesy of Tangletown Gardens







LAV415_p3_18.indd 16 4/15/11 3:02 PM

TRANSITIONS.
FORMATIONS.

Providing Solutions for
You and Your Family.

family solutions law group

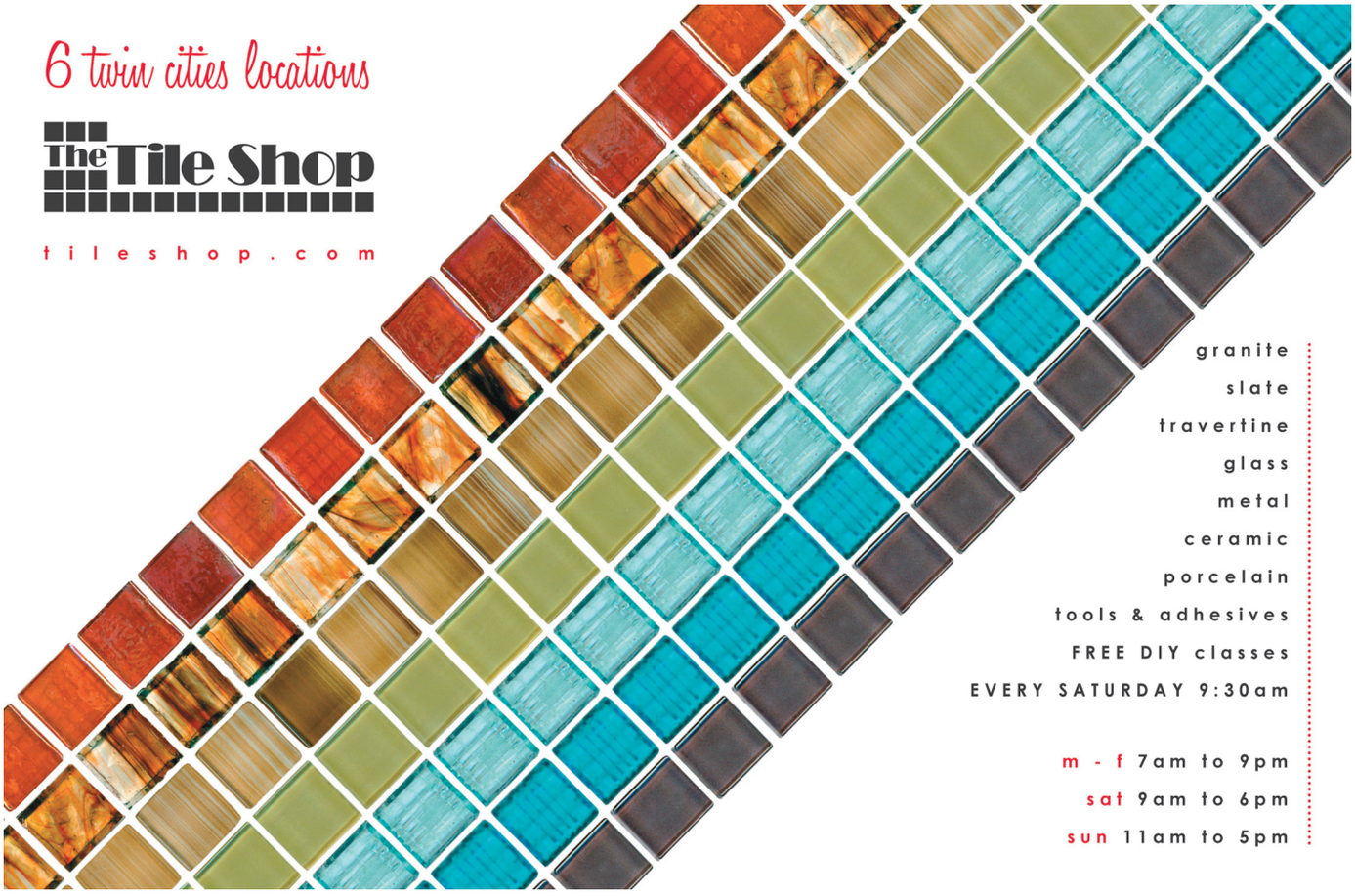
612-656-4245
www.familysolutionslaw.com



6 twin cities locations

The Tile Shop

tileshop.com



LAV415_p3_18.indd 17 4/15/11 3:02 PM

SEDGWICK

HEATING + AC | COMFORT YOU CAN COUNT ON

Late Season Furnace Tune Up Special

ONLY $79!

($109 for a boiler)





SAVE $1,000

or More on a Furnace and Air Conditioner,

Plus Rebates and Tax Credits.

SAVE $500

or More on a New Boiler

Plus Rebates and Tax Credits.

www.SedgwickHeating.com

(612) 284-6271

Serving all of the Twin Cities.

We're proud to be a part of the community.



U.S. Bank is committed to being your financial partner, helping you reach your goals. Whether you want to finance your dream home, start up a business, or just build your savings… we're here for you. At U.S. Bank we're dedicated to delivering outstanding customer service—the kind of one-on-one attention you deserve.

We're proud to serve the LGBT community!

All of us serving you®

usbank

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER usbank.com Member FDIC

WAGNERS

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, April 30 9AM – 6PM

Food, entertainment, tours of the greenhouses* and a chance to win a $100 Wagners gift card.



Bring in this coupon for $3 off a pansy bowl or oval.

Limit 3. Regular price $21.99.
Can not be combined with any other offer.
Valid from 4/30–5/1/11

CODE: LAV

Minneapolis
6024 Penn Ave S
ph. 612-922-6901
Just one block north of Crosstown

Hugo
4860 Frenchman Rd
ph. 651-653-8863

*Tours held at Penn Location only.

WAGNERS
A Garden of Ideas
wagners.biz

One essential phone number no homeowner should be without?

Ours.



With just one phone call to Garlock-French, you can get skilled Roofing Solutions, Roof Maintenance, Cedar Preservation, Chimney Repair, Custom Sheet Metal, and Solar options.

We understand the importance of quality, craftsmanship, and good customer service. They have been the hallmarks of Garlock-French for over 79 years.

We guarantee our workmanship, so you can feel secure knowing work done by Garlock-French will give you years of trouble-free service. And our friendly, reliable staff will take care of all the details, so you won't have to.

At Garlock-French Corporation, we've been up on roofs longer, and it shows.

Providing peace of mind since 1932

GARLOCK-FRENCH CORPORATION
SINCE 1932

Roofing Division • Cedar Preservation Division • Solar Division
Chimney Division • Sheet Metal Division • Roof Maintenance Division

2301 East 25th Street, Minneapolis • 612-722-7129
Garlock-French.com • MN License #0001423

LAV415_p3_18.indd 18 4/15/11 3:02 PM

DR. KAROL L. JENSEN

[1939-2011]



Photo by Sophia Hantzes

Dr. Karol L. Jensen, 72, died March 27 in Minneapolis. She was born February 26, 1939, in Minneapolis.

Having earned MPH and PhD degrees, Jensen was a well-known therapist in the GLBT community for many years. She was one of the first psychologists locally to work with transgender clients.

Jensen was the author of two books: *Lesbian Epiphanies: Women Coming Out in Later Life* and *Seeking Virginia: A Woman's Journey to Find Her Sexual Self*.

While serving on the Quatrefoil Library Board of Directors, Jensen edited the *Quatrefolio*. She also volunteered as a supervisor at the Walk In Counseling Center.

Jensen is survived by her partner, Karen Anderson; her daughter, Beth Iverson; her son, Chris Jensen; and her sister, Mareth Ericson.

Memorials may be directed to Fairview Hospice. □







LAV415_p19_34.indd 19 4/14/11 4:22 PM

Photos: Meghan Doll Photography



INTERNATIONAL SPONSOR

SUBARU IS PROUD TO HOST Dining Out FOR LIFE Dine Out, Fight AIDS

SUBARU

PRESENTING SPONSORS

CITY PAGES HOW WORD GETS AROUND

LAVENDER

KARE 11 kare11.com

GOLD FORK SPONSORS

Minnesota Monthly

taurus moon graphic design, llc

metromix.com powered by KARE

MEGHANDOLL PHOTOGRAPHY

CLEARCHANNEL OUTDOOR

OpenTable.com

SILVER SPOON SPONSOR

Twin Cities Dining Guide

BRONZE PLATE SPONSOR

Wallace | Carlson PRINTING EST. 1931

COPPER KETTLE SPONSORS

HOR Pro Professionals

Amy Ruzick & Kay T. Johnson RE/MAX Results www.NoPlaceLikeHome.info

Ticket Works no fees!

tibotec

PLATINUM-LEVEL RESTAURANTS

128 café · al Vento · Bambú · BANK Savor·Experience·Share · BAR ABILENE · Birchwood CAFE · blackbird · BRASA PREMIUM ROTISSERIE · ENA · chin dian · CHRISTOS Greek Restaurant & Catering Service · CHRISTOS UNION DEPOT PLACE EVENT & BANQUET FACILITIES · cupcake · Cuppa Java · eagle BOLT bar · el meson · Elsic's · Nacional Rodeo · FINNISH BISTRO · FIRELAKE grill house cocktail bar · fusion · HAZEL'S · HERKIMER PUB & BREWERY · Highland Café & Bakery · HIMALAYAN · Hot Plate · the independent · J.D. Hoyt's · joe's garage · KHYBER PASS CAFE · LOUNGE · LORING KITCHEN & BAR · LUSH · MAVERICK'S · moose&sadie's · mora·i · Nhon Vietnamese Bistro · Pajarito · Restaurant PAPA'S · Piccolo · PIZZA LUCE · Purple ONION CAFE · RESTAURANT ALMA · BREAD Rustica PASTRY · Saloon · sawaldee's zushiya · SAWATDEE Saint Paul Thai Cuisine · SEÑOR WONG · spill the wine · SUPATRA'S THAI CUISINE · ThanhDo · Thana Phanich's WONDROUS ASIAN KITCHEN · TOAST Wine bar & café · VaBene BERARDUCCI'S CAFFÈ · Victor's 1959 Café revolutionary Cuban cooking · WILDE ROAST CAFE · yum!

DINING OUT FOR LIFE THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2011

CITY PAGES, LAVENDER and **KARE-11** invite you to

Dine out. Do good.

Dine out at one of these participating restaurants on Thursday, April 28, and a portion of their receipts will be donated to The Aliveness Project. Help support this community center for people living with HIV/AIDS. **It's the easiest good deed you'll do this year!**

B = Breakfast
L = Lunch
D = Dinner

PLATINUM LEVEL (35+%)

128 Café D
al Vento D
B.A.N.K. D
Bambú D
Bar Abilene D
Birchwood Cafe D
Blackbird Café L,D
Brasa Rotisserie D
Café Ena D
Chin Dian Cafe D
Christos Greek Restaurant - Minnetonka D
Christos Union Depot Place D
Cupcake B,L,D
Cuppa Java Coffee and Deli D
eagleBOLTbar D
El Mesón D
El Nuevo Rodeo L,D
Elsie's B,L,D
Finnish Bistro D
FireLake Grill House & Cocktail Bar B
Fusion Restaurant D
Hazel's Northeast B,L,D
The Herkimer Pub & Brewery L,D
Highland Cafe & Bakery D
Himalayan Restaurant - Fridley L,D
Himalayan Restaurant - Mpls. D
Hot Plate B,L
The Independent L,D
J.D. Hoyt's D
Joe's Garage Restaurant D
Khyber Pass Cafe L,D
Loring Kitchen & Bar L,D
LUSH Food Bar D
Maverick's Wood Grill D
Moose and Sadie's Eatery D
moto-i Sake Brewery & Restaurant L,D
Ngon Vietnamese Bistro D
Pagoda D
Pancho Villa's Grill L
Papa's Restaurant and Deli L,D
Piccolo D
Pizza Lucé - Downtown Mpls. (DINE IN ONLY) L,D
Pizza Lucé - Duluth (DINE IN ONLY) L,D
Pizza Lucé - Hopkins (DINE IN ONLY) L,D
Pizza Lucé - Seward/University (DINE-IN ONLY) L,D
Pizza Lucé - St. Paul (DINE-IN ONLY) L,D
Pizza Lucé - Uptown (DINE IN ONLY) L,D
The Purple Onion Cafe B,L,D
Restaurant Alma D
Rustica Bakery B,L,D
The Saloon D
Sawatdee & Zushiya of Maple Grove D
Sawatdee St. Paul D
Señor Wong D
Spill The Wine L,D
Supatra's Thai Cuisine D
Thanh Do Restaurant L,D
Thom Pham's Wondrous Azian Kitchen L,D
Toast Wine Bar & Cafe D
Va Bene Berarducci's Caffé (Duluth) L,D
Victor's 1959 Café B,L,D
Wilde Roast Cafe B,L,D
Yum! Kitchen & Bakery (Take Out Only) B,L,D

GOLD LEVEL (25-34%)

Anodyne @ 43rd B,L,D
Café Twenty-Eight L,D
Carmelo's Ristorante L,D
Colossal Cafe B,L
Curran's Restaurant D
Dover Restaurant & Bar D
Eden Avenue Grill D
Erté & The Peacock Lounge D
Everest on Grand L
Falafel King L,D
Grand Cafe L,D
Great Waters Brewing Company L,D
Jakeeno's Pizza & Pasta L,D
Joseph's Family Restaurant B,L,D
Lyon's Pub L,D
May Day Cafe B,L
McCoy's Public House L,D
Rainbow Chinese Restaurant and Bar L,D
Rudolphs Bar-B-Que L,D
St. Clair Broiler L,D
The Sample Room L,D

SILVER LEVEL (20-24%)

318 Café B,L
Arezzo Ristorante L,D
Barbette L,D
Black Forest Inn B,L,D
Boca Chica Restaurante L,D
The Butcher Block Bar & Restaurant D
C.C. Club B,L,D
Café Maude L
Citizen Cafe L,D
FACES Mears Park L,D
Fuji Ya Japanese D
Ginger Hop Restaurant L,D
The Glockenspiel L,D
Il Gatto D
It's Greek to Me D
Jitters Coffee & Tea House (Duluth) B,L
Lucia's Restaurant and Wine Bar D
Maynard's Restaurant L
Nonna Rosa's Ristorante Italiano L,D
Park Tavern Bowling & Entertainment Center L,D
Red Stag Supperclub L,D
Restaurant Aura D
Rinata D
Riverview Cafe & Wine Bar L,D
Sawatdee Thai Restaurant L,D
Sontes (Rochester) D
Stella's Fish Cafe L,D
Trattoria da Vinci D
Vina Restaurant D

BRONZE LEVEL (15-19%)

8th Street Grill L
Acqua D
Afton House Inn D
Amazing Grace Bakery & Café (Duluth) D
Angelo's Italian Restaurant L, D
Aster Café L,D
At Sara's Table/Chester Creek Café (Duluth) D
Beaujo's Wine Bar & Bistro L
Black Dog Café & Wine Bar B,L,D
Bruegger's Bagels (Eden Prairie) B,L,D
The Bulldog Lowertown D
The Bulldog Uptown L,D
Buona Sera D
Campus Pizza L,D
Chiang Mai Thai D
Chris & Rob's Chicago Taste Authority - Fridley D
Chris & Rob's Chicago Taste Authority - Mpls. D
Chris & Rob's Chicago Taste Authority - St. Paul D
Craftsman Restaurant D
Dunn Bros Coffee (Roseville) B,L,D
Ecopolitan Restaurant B,L,D
El Paraiso Mexican Restaurant L,D
Fat Lorenzo's L,D
Fireroast Mountain Café B,L,D
First Course D
Forum (no concierge referred guest; no private parties) D
Galactic Pizza L,D
Gigi's Cafe L,D
Jackson's Coffee & Gelato B,L,D
Kafé 421 L,D
La Chaya Bistro D
Lone Spur Grill & Bar L,D
Luna Rossa Trattoria & Wine Bar D
The Malt Shop Restaurant L
Manny's Tortas L,D
Muffuletta L,D
Napa Valley Grille L,D
The New Scenic Cafe (Duluth) L,D
Rail Station Bar & Grill D
Roat Osha D
Roman Anthony's Italian Restaurant L,D
Sanctuary D
Santorini L,D
Sapor Cafe/Bar L,D
Sen Yai Sen Lek L,D
Sir Benedicts Tavern on the Lake (Duluth) B,L,D
Spoonriver L,D
Stanley's Northeast Bar Room D
Tanpopo Noodle Shop D
Tum Rup Thai L,D
W.A. Frost & Company L
Wienery B,L,D

SUBARU IS PROUD TO HOST

Dining Out FOR LIFE

Dine Out. Fight AIDS

THE ALIVENESS PROJECT

For more information, visit **diningoutforlife.com** or call **612-824-LIFE** (5433).
The Aliveness Project, 730 East 38th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55407 **www.aliveness.org**

LAV415_p19_34.indd 21 4/14/11 4:22 PM

PFUND PROMOTES KROENING AND WENKER

BOTH STAFF MEMBERS ALREADY HAVE BEEN WORKING BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY FOR THE ORGANIZATION.

ON APRIL 4, PFund Foundation announced two "well-deserved" promotions, as the organization has been pursuing its goal to advance GLBT equality through fundraising and by providing resources for the GLBT community, Executive Director Susan Raffo said.

PFund promoted Ryan Kroening and Alfonso Wenker to Events and Outreach Coordinator and Director of Development and Communications, respectively. They will step into their new roles June 1.

Raffo, who recently became Executive Director with Kate Eubank through a job-sharing structure, noted that the promotions could be called "catch-up," because Kroening and Wenker have worked beyond expectations to achieve PFund's goal of promoting GLBT equality.

In Raffo's words, "In some ways, it feels like a catch-up, because really, this is what [Ryan]'s been doing. He ended up stepping in, and taking responsibilities outside of his job. This promotion is bringing his position to what he's been doing all along."

As Events and Outreach Coordinator, Kroening will facilitate outreach in the Midwest, and oversee all foundation events and day-to-day office activities, according to a press release.

In 2007, Kroening began as a volunteer with PFund, and became part of the staff in July 2010. He also worked with Project 515 and the Minnesota GLBTA Campus Alliance.

Kroening is a 2009 graduate of the University of Minnesota with a Bachelor of Individualized Studies in cultural anthropology, design, and family social science, with a minor in GLBT studies.



Ryan Kroening (left) and Alfonso Wenker. Photo Courtesy of PFund Foundation

In a news release, Kroening stated, "I'm honored to be increasing my responsibilities with PFund, and look forward to engaging with our constituents across the region."

Wenker remarked that he has "big shoes to fill."

As Director of Development and Communications, Wenker, who has been with PFund for more than four years, will maintain relationships with donors, as well as strive to increase the organization's visibility in the Midwest.

Referencing Wenker's education as a graduate of the University of St. Thomas in public relations, Raffo observed, "This is what [Alfonso's] training was for. He's taking skills he already had to expand fundraising, and expand PFund's reach across the region."

Wenker served on the development staff of OutFront Minnesota, and was Cochair for the 2011 National Conference on LGBT Equality: Creating Change.

Since its inception in 1987, PFund has worked to advance social justice for GLBT communities in the Upper Midwest by directly assisting organizations, providing funding, encouraging philanthropy, and using media to promote GLBT issues.

Wenker enthused, "The most exciting part is that we get to work on a lot of different issues with different vantage points, from political advocacy to working to advance LGBT issues. I'm excited to continue to work for the LGBT community."

With a new hire for Program Officer, too, Raffo pointed out that PFund's staff and leadership represent many generations. The organization's goal moving forward is to use that strength to listen to and gain wisdom from the many voices of the GLBT community, and to continue to provide the resources it needs.

For more information, visit <www.PFundOnline.org>. □

LAV415_p19_34.indd 22 4/14/11 4:22 PM

LAVENDER'S

Out in the Stands

JULY 22, 2011

Friday, July 22 • 7:10 PM

Minnesota Twins vs. Detroit Tigers
Target Field • Minneapolis

Post-game party at
Thom Pham's Wondrous Azian Kitchen
533 Hennepin Ave.
Show game ticket for specials

Sunday, July 17 Pre-Party
4 - 7 PM • Park Tavern • St. Louis Park
Pick up tickets and commemorative
OUT in the Stands T-shirts

Presented by

MEDICA. Ameriprise Financial RÖKK IMPORTED VODKA PLEASE DRINK RESPONSIBLY.

Part of Lavender's 2011 SUMMER of PRIDE



Enjoy the game in a special section of Target Field reserved ENTIRELY for Lavender's OUT in the Stands!

EVENT TICKETS ARE ONLY $35
Purchase your tickets at LavenderMagazine.com/summerofpride

YOUR TICKET INCLUDES:
Reserved Seating • Great view of the game • Post-game Party • OUT in the Stands T-shirt

ENTER TO WIN A CHANCE TO RAISE THE TWINS TERRITORY FLAG!
Simply log on to LavenderMagazine.com/summerofpride and you're one step closer to raising the pre-game flag at Target Field!

LAVENDER Miller Lite MEDICA. Ameriprise Financial RÖKK IMPORTED VODKA PLEASE DRINK RESPONSIBLY.

LAV415_p19_34.indd 23 4/14/11 4:22 PM



First Public Same-Sex Partnerships Celebrated in Ireland

Agence France-Presse reports that the first same-sex civil partnerships were celebrated in Ireland in early April, after a law passed in January took effect. Dublin residents Barry Dignam and Hugh Walsh were the first couple to celebrate their partnership.

Washington Recognizes Out-of-State Same-Sex Unions

According to the Associated Press, the Washington Legislature approved and Governor Chris Gregoire signed a bill recognizing same-sex marriages performed in other states.

Delaware Elects First Openly-Gay Mayor

Delaware City elected openly-gay restaurant owner John Buchheit as its Mayor in April, making it the first city in Delaware to do so. Buchheit, who ran as an independent, defeated sitting mayor John Martin by just 30 votes.

Arkansas Court Strikes Down Gay Adoption Ban

The Associated Press reports that in April, the Arkansas Supreme Court upheld a lower-court ruling striking down a state law barring same-sex and unmarried couples from becoming adoptive or foster parents.

Navy Panel Votes Unanimously To Retain Openly Gay Sailor

A three-member panel at Leemore Naval Air Station in California has voted unanimously not to discharge openly-gay sailor Derek Morado under the Don't Ask, Don't Tell ban on openly gay soldiers.

Police Raid Shanghai Gay Bar and Detain More Than 60

According to *The New York Times,* in April, Shanghai police raided a gay bar, and detained more than 60 patrons and employees. Police said they were investigating reports that a male dancer was performing a "pornographic" show at the Q Bar.

Nashville Approves Gay Protection Proposal

The Associated Press reports that in April, Nashville, Tennessee, passed by a thin margin an ordinance aimed at protecting gays and lesbians who work for companies contracting with the city. Religious institutions are exempt.

Student Sues Former Assistant Attorney General for Stalking

According to the Associated Press, openly-gay University of Michigan student President Chris Armstrong, who is Student Assembly President, is suing former Michigan Assistant Attorney General Andrew Shirvell on charges of stalking and emotional distress.

Transgender City Manager Accused of Antigay Bias

The Palm Beach Post reports that transgender woman Susan Stanton, City Manager of Lake Worth, Florida, is being accused of antigay bias in connection with a dispute over a local gay bar. The Cottage bar is circulating a petition accusing her and other city officials of targeting it for noise complaints.

Massachusetts Governor Nominates First Openly Gay High Court Justice

According to *The Boston* Globe, Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick has nominated Barbara A. Lenk to be the first openly-gay justice on the state Supreme Court. She also would be the first justice to be legally-married as a result of the 2003 high court decision to legalize same-sex marriage in Massachusetts.



Married Gay Couples "Refuse to Lie" on Tax Forms

According to *The New York Times*, some legally-married same-sex couples in the United States are refusing to file federal tax returns separately this year. Federal law does not recognize same-sex marriages, and couples must file separate federal returns. Nadine Smith, Executive Director of the GLBT advocacy group Equality Florida, who told the newspaper that she plans to file a joint return with her wife, said, "More people are refusing to lie on those forms, even though the government is telling them to." A spokeswoman from the Internal Revenue Service stated that the agency follows the federal Defense of Marriage Act. □

LAV415_p19_34.indd 24 4/14/11 4:22 PM

PLANS THAT FIT YOUR LIFE.

Wherever you are in life, we have a health plan that fits your needs and your budget.

Scan the code with your smartphone's QR code reader* to be connected instantly with a plan that works best for you. Call your Medica agent or 1-855-medica1. Or visit us at **medica.com/plansthatfit.**



MEDICA® **Personalize. Empower. Improve.**

*Need the QR reader app? Go to get.neoreader.com from your mobile phone to download a free app, then scan the code and get a quote.

BRAZEN THEATRE
presents

Jeffrey

By Paul Rudnick

STARRING: **James Napoleon Stone & Mark Hooker**



April 28, 29, 30,
May 5, 6, 7
8:00 pm

TICKETS ARE $20
Info: (612) 991-8729
www.BrazenTheatre.org

Lowry Lab Theatre
350 St. Peter Street
St. Paul, MN

LAVENDER's
FIRST Thursdays

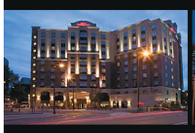
The Twin Cities GLBT Community Happy Hour

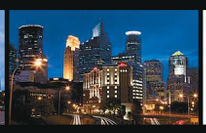
When: Thursday, May 5

Time: 5:30 - 8:00 PM

Cost: FREE

Where: Hilton Garden Inn
1101 4th Ave. S.
Minneapolis





Hilton Garden Inn® Minneapolis Downtown

Your Hosts: LAVENDER | HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN | project 515 | OUTFRONT MINNESOTA | north country bears



COME OUT AND PLAY, COME IN AND STAY.

Treat yourselves to a stylish getaway filled with great food, shopping, and the city's top attractions.

Then, when the day is over, retreat into the warm welcome that is, quite simply, the Marriott way.

For Reservations Call 1-800-MARRIOTT
or visit MinneapolisMarriott.com

MINNEAPOLIS MARRIOTT CITY CENTER
30 South 7th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota | 55402
612.349.4000 | MinneapolisMarriott.com

Marriott. MINNEAPOLIS CITY CENTER

LAV415_p19_34.indd 25 4/14/11 4:22 PM

JEFFREY STARS JAMES NAPOLEON STONE

1993 PLAY ABOUT HIV ISSUES STILL RESONATES TWO DECADES LATER.

BRAZEN THEATRE HAS found its niche in producing classic gay plays. Its new offering, *Jeffrey,* first performed in 1993, now shows us how far we've come.

Brazen Founding Artistic Director Mark Hooker was drawn to the way Paul Rudnick's comedy, in Hooker's words, "deals with sexual identity, HIV, and self-acceptance."

Fair or not, handsome actors comfortable with their physical bodies are often crucial to gay theater. That's why you'll see James Napoleon Stone in the title role.

Stone, who is hot, and "straight but not narrow," has given terrific performances as the lead role of Max in Martin Sherman's gay-holocaust classic *Bent* in both Minnesota and ultraconservative Idaho.

What's striking is that this 25-year-old straight actor now has played two landmark roles of gay men navigating two very different crises. Max outsmarts Hitler's death camp horrors, while Jeffrey confronts AIDS mass hysteria in the early 1990s.

Fortunately, a straight actor playing gay roles is far-less-stigmatized than it was two decades ago. Stone is grateful to the hit *Brokeback Mountain* for helping to break that glass ceiling. Moreover, any serious straight actor knows the experience only can broaden his understanding of humanity and the acting craft.

When asked about the divide between straight and gay characters, Stone shares, "I don't really think of it as a divide. I suppose it's more about truthfully communicating the human experience to the best of my abilities."

Jeffrey's dilemma is that the AIDS epidemic seems to have eradicated any chance of enduring love. Hence, being HIV-negative and wary of contracting the virus, he swears off having sex, which also means denying his humanity. But as fate would have it, he falls in love with an HIV-positive man.

Stone observes, "Jeffrey has the common paranoia that surrounds someone in a relationship with a partner with HIV, because they've never been a part of that world. In that sense, Jeffrey is the lens through which we can learn about the truth about being in a relationship with someone with HIV. And through his experience, we can dispel our own fears, and learn the truth."

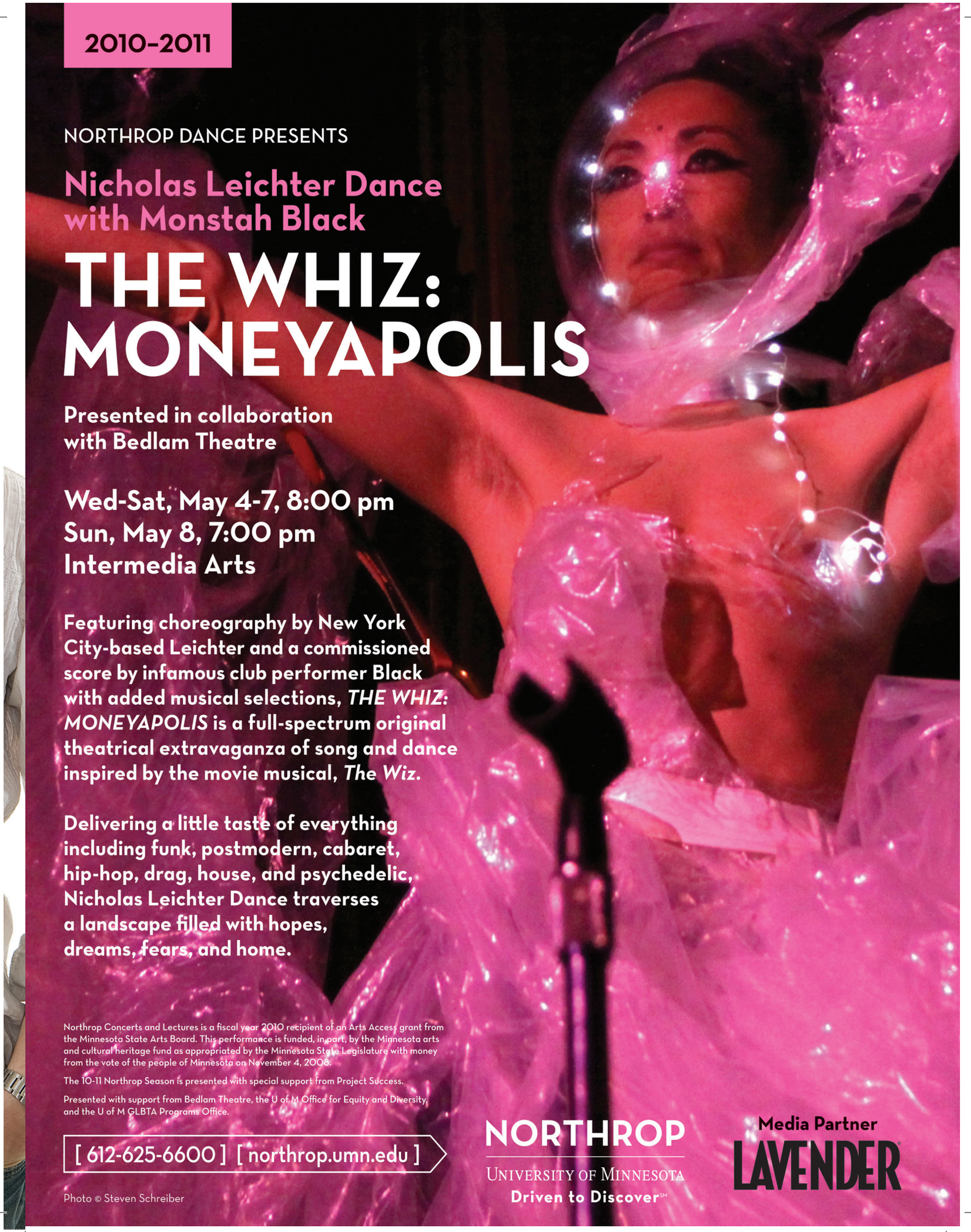
Director Mary Cutler notes, "Rudnick deals with fear of intimacy, whether it comes from touch or conversation. Risking in our connections with people is essential to our humanity. 'Safety' and control only mean staying within the known or status quo, and out of growth paths. Jeffrey not only fears AIDS, he fears risking intimacy with a partner for whom he will have to show up, and be available for the ups and downs of living and living together in intimate awareness." □

Jeffrey
Through May 7
Lowry Lab
350 St. Peter St., St. Paul
(612) 991-8729
www.brazentheatre.org



James Napoleon Stone.
Photo by Mike Hnida

LAV415_p19_34.indd 26 4/14/11 4:22 PM



2010–2011

NORTHROP DANCE PRESENTS

Nicholas Leichter Dance with Monstah Black

THE WHIZ: MONEYAPOLIS

Presented in collaboration with Bedlam Theatre

Wed-Sat, May 4-7, 8:00 pm
Sun, May 8, 7:00 pm
Intermedia Arts

Featuring choreography by New York City-based Leichter and a commissioned score by infamous club performer Black with added musical selections, *THE WHIZ: MONEYAPOLIS* is a full-spectrum original theatrical extravaganza of song and dance inspired by the movie musical, *The Wiz*.

Delivering a little taste of everything including funk, postmodern, cabaret, hip-hop, drag, house, and psychedelic, Nicholas Leichter Dance traverses a landscape filled with hopes, dreams, fears, and home.

Northrop Concerts and Lectures is a fiscal year 2010 recipient of an Arts Access grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board. This performance is funded, in part, by the Minnesota arts and cultural heritage fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.

The 10-11 Northrop Season is presented with special support from Project Success.

Presented with support from Bedlam Theatre, the U of M Office for Equity and Diversity, and the U of M GLBTA Programs Office.

[612-625-6600] [northrop.umn.edu]

Photo © Steven Schreiber

NORTHROP
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover℠

Media Partner
LAVENDER

LAV415_p19_34.indd 27 4/14/11 4:22 PM





Uncle Vanya. Photo by Tamatha Miller

Uncle Vanya — Craig Johnson powerfully adapts playwright Anton Chekhov's view of Russia in the socially-ravaged twilight of the Tsarist Age. Janice Stone soulfully directs. Johnson says, "So many of its themes resonate in our society today. Environmental degradation; health care for the poorest and most vulnerable; planning for retirement; the premium placed on personal appearance; the objectification of women; fear of aging; and selling of the family home are all central issues in the play." **Through Apr. 23 • Gremlin Theatre • 2400 University Ave. W., St. Paul • (651) 228-7008 • <www.gremlin-theatre.org>**



The Small. Photo by Liz Josheff

The Small — Playwright Anne Washburn probes ordinary people who come up against problems bigger than what they seem to be able to handle, and how that changes their sense of reality—not to mention the audience's. Red Eye actress and core member Miriam Must notes, "The action shifts seamlessly between mundane everyday interactions and extravagant fantasies, peopled by ample-bosomed elves, Celtic kings, and a hunting soundscape of horses hooves and warrior cries." **Through May 1 • Red Eye Theater • 15 W. 14th St., Mpls. • (612) 870-0309 • www.redeyetheater.org**

Jersey Boys — The high-pitched sound of The Four Seasons is so unique that actors playing them in this Tony-winning biomusical must go through a special vocal training. But the man behind their signature sound was Bob Crewe. Jonathan Hadley, who plays Crewe, observes, "He was their primary lyricist, but also their manager and producer. I kind of call him the 'Fifth' Season, behind the scenes, that nobody knew. He was responsible for their signature sound." **Through May 9 • OrpheumTheatre•910HennepinAve., Mpls. • (800) 982-2787 • www.HennepinTheatreTrust.org**



Jersey Boys. Photo by Joan Marcus

[Title of Show] — This autobiographical Tony-nominee by Jeff Bowen and Hunter Bell involves two energetic gay men writing a musical. Adam Qualls and Max Wojtanowicz play Bowen and Bell, respectively. Ryan Grimes, director of the regional premiere, explains that it's about obstacles to creativity, "be it a nagging acquaintance or a negative inner voice. Create what you want to create. Following your own instincts will prove far more fruitful than following the path others have instructed you to take." **Through Apr. 30 • Sabes Jewish Community Center • 4330 Cedar Lake Rd. S., Mpls. • (612) 524-5825 • www.urbansamurai.org** ↦

LAV415_p19_34.indd 28 4/14/11 4:22 PM

MoundsPark
ACADEMY

INDEPENDENT PREK-12 CO-EDUCATIONAL COLLEGE PREP



SAFE.
RESPECTFUL.
FAMILY-CENTERED.
VIBRANT.

Office of Admission 651-748-5577
moundsparkacademy.org
2051 Larpenteur Avenue East
Saint Paul, MN 55109

INFORMATION SESSION
MAY 24, 8:45–11A.M.

Minnesota Philharmonic Orchestra Presents

HIT PARADE 2: CENSORED!

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2011 – 7:30 P.M.

SUNDIN MUSIC HALL, HAMLINE UNIVERSITY
1536 HEWITT AVENUE, SAINT PAUL

Celebrating Joseph Schlefke's last concert as music director, the MPO will feature three 'hits' that have experienced censorship but survived to see the light of day.

TICKETS AT THE DOOR:
$18 adult
$12 student/senior
$5 child

SAVE $2 by buying tickets in advance.
purchase tickets at
mnphil.org
612.656.5676

2010 & 2011
SYMPHONIZE
ALONG
MINNESOTA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
WITH US



Joseph Schlefke
Music Director



Art in Bloom

TIMELESS ART. FRESH FLOWERS.





FREE!

APRIL 28–MAY 1

Hundreds of fresh flower arrangements inspired by the MIA's world-class collection decorate the galleries for four spectacular days.

Presented by the Friends of the Institute.

Media sponsor: myTalk 107.1

Lucas Cranach the Elder, 1472–1553, *Portrait of Anna Buchner, nèe Lindacker* (detail), c. 1520, oil on panel, The William Hood Dunwoody Fund

Floral interpretation
by Beryl Taylor-Edwards

MIA MINNEAPOLIS INSTITUTE OF ARTS

(612) 870-3000
artsmia.org

LAV415_p19_34.indd 29 4/14/11 4:23 PM

[MUSIC]



Janis Ian. Photo by Peter Cunninghan

Call to Action Concert — Folk music and lesbian icon Janis Ian wrote and recorded two songs early in her career that became touchstones for alienated teens. "Society's Child" and "At 17" still blow us away with their profound simplicity and sensitivity. In our time, when homophobic bullying finally has become a national concern, these classics resonate with renewed power.

Many have an outdated image of Ian from 40 years ago. However, her lyrics have continued to be daring and sharp-witted. In "God and the FBI," she sings about the autocratic former FBI Director: "J. Edgar Hoover in a pink tutu. Investigatin' anyone who thinks like you." Her "Married in London" contains these lyrics: "We're married in London, but not in New York. Spain says we're Kosher. The States say we're pork."

This defiant spirit certainly will accompany Ian to her Call to Action Concert performance. Folk legend Tom Paxton, along with Natalia Zukerman, who brings to mind the smooth electric sound of Stevie Nicks, will join Ian.

Grassroots Community Outreach and Community Partnership Coordinator Arlana Vaughan shares, "Music is a wonderful catalyst to bring community together, and such issues as women's rights, workers' rights, LGBT rights, health care for all, and mental health parity are just a few areas that advocates work on tirelessly on a daily basis. Music honors, heals, and inspires the soul. These gatherings inspire and motivate individuals to continue their work, and feel part of the larger social community." **Apr. 29 • Fitzgerald Theater • 10 E. Exchange St., St. Paul • (651) 290-1200 • www.ticketmaster.com**

[Theater]



Dennis Spears. Photo by Tom Wallace

I Wish You Love — Hearing the creamy vocals of the legendary Nat King Cole (1919-1965), it seems dreadfully incongruous that this sublime baritone could *not* be loved by anyone who heard him. Yet, NBC TV treated him like a second-class citizen. Playwright Dominic Taylor's biomusical *I Wish You Love* takes place in the 1950s at NBC Studios. In describing Taylor's approach, lead actor Dennis Spears says, "On the one hand, you see Cole in performance with that dazzling smile and persona, and on the other hand, off the air, fighting for equal footing in the business." Lou Bellamy directs. Sanford Moore directs the music. **Through May 22 • Penumbra Theatre • 270 N. Kent St., St. Paul • (651) 224-3180 • www.penumbratheatre.org**

[Theater]

Avenue Q — The first local production of this R-rated *Sesame Street* spoof is every bit as sweet and scandalous as the recent Broadway tour. Since *Avenue Q* last played Minneapolis, *Diff'rent Strokes* star Gary Coleman, who is a character in the musical, died. At Mixed Blood, the role continues with a *woman* playing him: a charmingly butch Brittany Bradford. Seth Tucker is perfect as gay Republican Rod. He yearns for his straight roommate, Nicky (portrayed by an endearing Brian Skellenger), but throws him onto the streets in a fit of self-loathing. **Through May 1 • Mixed Blood Theatre • 1501 S. 4th St., Mpls. • (612) 338-6131 • www.mixedbloodtheatre.org**



Avenue Q. Photo by Rich Ryan

LAV415_p19_34.indd 30 4/14/11 4:23 PM

AM 950 THE PROGRESSIVE VOICE OF MINNESOTA

Enjoy a Night of
POLITICAL FUN
with
CAPITOL STEPS

Thursday, May 12th, 2011
Orpheum Theater | 7:00 PM Show

Capitol Steps

For ticket details visit:
www.AM950radio.com

Your Opinion Counts!
LAVENDER® Reader Survey
Online & Mobile
LAVENDERMAGAZINE.COM/SURVEY





HELTZER & HOUGHTALING, P.A.

Practicing in the areas of Family Law, Probate, Business, Civil Litigation, Domestic Partnerships, Wills and Trusts, Administrative Law, and Real Estate.

413 Wacouta St., Suite 430, St. Paul • (651) 330-8508
www.heltzerhoughtaling.com

NEXT FALL

"FIVE STARS!
The Best New American Play of the Season!"
-Time Out New York

DIRECTED BY JOEL SASS
BY GEOFFREY NAUFFTS

"...an engaging, discussion-provoking play that gives you plenty for your head and might break your heart."
-Pioneer Press

Please join us for
Lavender Night at the Theater
Friday, April 29th, 8:00pm

Ask for the Lavendar Night Discount!
Pre-show reception at 6:30pm

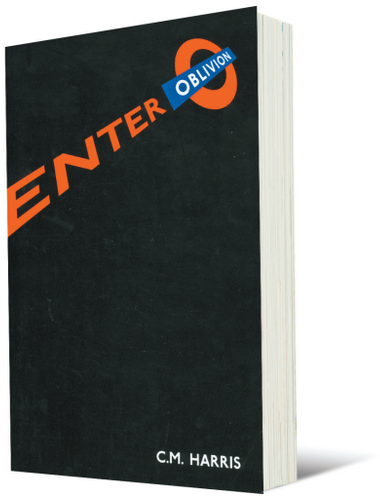
"A serious drama that's seriously funny!"
-NY Daily News

THRU - MAY 22

Box Office: 612.822.7063
JUNGLETHEATER.com

THE JUNGLE THEATER

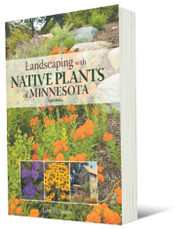
LAV415_p19_34.indd 31 4/14/11 4:23 PM



Enter Oblivion • C.M. Harris

C.M. Harris has the savvy to create a rousing tale, as well as the language, imagery, and wit to deliver it. Taking the reader to 1980s London through clueless Yank boxer/gangster Vince Saviglio, she plonks Vince and reader alike into deepest New Wave culture. He becomes entangled with pop star Jik O'Blivion, along with an entourage held together almost mystically through the aura of Jezebel, mother superior transvestite and drag queen, "a bloke who wants to wear a frock." Violence, love, and the specter of AIDS all seem far removed from Harris's *The Children of Mother Glory,* until the penny drops, and you realize the search for self, love, and family cohesion knows no bounds of gender or geography.

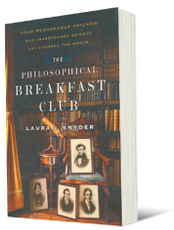
Casperian Books • $15



Landscaping with Native Plants of Minnesota • Lynn M. Steiner

What would be the horticultural analog of a locavore?—a practitioner of "locatillage" or "locaculture"?—in any event, a proponent of landscaping yard and grounds with native Minnesota plants. Steiner's detailed and extensively-illustrated handbook first defines native plants as those "growing here naturally before European settlement." She then goes on—methodically yet readably—to her two-pronged approach: identifying Minnesota's native plants, and showing how best to use them in one's landscaping plans. To this end are examples of individual homes that utilize prairie, pond, wildlife, and sustainable aspects of these plants, together with detailed zone maps for correct planting, plant profiles, and landscapes to attract butterflies and hummingbirds. Lively and entertaining, it's a must for ecologically-concerned Minnesota gardeners.

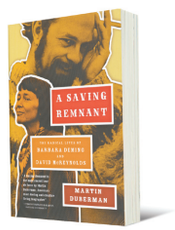
Voyageur Press • $27.99



The Philosophical Breakfast Club: Four Remarkable Friends who Transformed Science and Changed the World • Laura J. Snyder

Mark Zuckerberg launched the Facebook behemoth from his Harvard dorm room, but couldn't have managed it without the work laid down by four college chums in the 1800s—members of the Philosophical Breakfast Club at Cambridge University in England. Born between 1790 and 1792, they remained in contact over the next half-century, though not always in perfect harmony. Charles Babbage, John Herschel, Richard Jones, and William Whewell dedicated their lives to bringing about a scientific revolution, including the word "scientist," which Whewell coined in 1833. Babbage essentially invented the modern computer. Astronomer Herschell mapped the southern stars, and helped invent photography. Jones founded the science of economics. Polymath Whewell created the science of tides and more. A remarkable read.

Broadway Books • $27



A Saving Remnant: The Radical Lives of Barbara Deming and David McReynolds • Martin Duberman

Martin Duberman applies his considerable talents as a biographer (see also his powerful 2007 *The Worlds of Lincoln Kirstein*) to explore the parallel lives of Barbara Deming and David McReynolds. The phrase "saving remnant," Duberman informs, historically has encompassed those few who are "neither indoctrinated nor frightened into accepting oppressive social conditions." Deming and McReynolds, born in 1917 and 1929, respectively, had to come to terms with their own homosexuality, along with how they—as *radicals*, rather than run-of-the-mill liberals—tackled the 1960s problems (not sufficiently solved today) of nuclear disarmament, war (then Vietnam), and black civil rights. Duberman also reveals their drastic divergence on the topics of feminism, antipornography, and the direction of the gay movement. A valuable read and reference.

The New Press • $27.95

LAV415_p19_34.indd 32 4/14/11 4:23 PM

Supporting undiscovered bands one rent check at a time.

770 AM ★ 100.7 & 104.5 FM
RADIO K

Online at RadioK.org

Estate Planning | Medical Assistance | Probate | LGBT Family Law



OF COURSE YOU'LL NEVER GET OLD

(BUT WE'RE HERE JUST IN CASE YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO DOES).

BUCHHOLZ & BURKE, PLLC

John Buchholz & Allison Burke

www.gray-and-gay.com | 612-217-2137

LAVENDER's Nights at the Theater

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

Next Fall

April 29 • 8:00 PM

JUNGLE THEATER

2951 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis

612-822-7063 • www.jungletheater.com

The Southern Theater presents

Justin Bond

Justin Bond of *Kiki & Herb* fame presents material from the new solo album *Dendrophile* as part of The Natural Selection Tour

May 6 Friday at 8pm

"The greatest cabaret artist of [V's] generation"
– *The New Yorker*

the Southern theater

BOX OFFICE: 612.340.1725
1420 WASHINGTON AVE. S., MPLS.
WWW.SOUTHERNTHEATER.ORG

LAVENDER
vita.mn
spill the wine
89.3 the current
aloft

LAV415_p19_34.indd 33 4/14/11 4:23 PM

WHO WILL
CREATE TOMORROW'S
SOUNDTRACK?



NOW OFFERING
AUDIO PRODUCTION

ENROLL NOW
612.332.3361
www.aim.aii.edu

The Art Institutes International Minnesota℠
CREATE TOMORROW

DESIGN MEDIA ARTS FASHION CULINARY

NORTHROP DANCE PRESENTS *THE WHIZ: MONEYAPOLIS*



Photo by Steven Schreiber

In *The Whiz: Moneyapolis*, Northrop Dance at the University of Minnesota presents Nicholas Leichter Dance with Monstah Black in collaboration with Bedlam Theatre and Intermedia Arts.

Featuring choreography by New York City-based Leichter and a commissioned score by infamous club performer Black with added musical selections, *The Whiz: Moneyapolis* is a full-spectrum original theatrical extravaganza of song and dance inspired by the movie musical *The Wiz*.

Leichter is working with several local artists who feature several surprises during the performances: Shannon Blowtorch, Kenna-Camera Cottman, Mad King Thomas (with a reimagine of their infamous polar bear dance), Jeffry Lusiak, and The Real Hauswives of Hennepin County. The legendary Cee Cee Russell will perform her tribute to Diana Ross, as will the stunning dancer and choreographer Leah Nelson. □

The Whiz: Moneyapolis
May 4-8
Intermedia Arts
2822 Lyndale Ave. S., Mpls.
(612) 625-6600
northrop.umn.edu

LAV415_p19_34.indd 34 4/14/11 4:23 PM

Don't miss **Alice Ripley** in her legendary Tony Award®-winning performance.



"Brave and breathtaking.
A work of muscular …grace and power."
BEN BRANTLEY, THE NEW YORK TIMES

"An emotional powerhouse that will pin you to your seat."
PETER TRAVERS, ROLLING STONE

next to normal
THE TONY® AND PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING MUSICAL



MAY 10-22
ordway.org | 651.224.4222
GROUPS 10+: 651.282.3111

Support provided by
THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

ORDWAY
Joy. Centerstage.

NextToNormal.com

Sound advice—for an uncertain market.

The right partnership can give you one of the most powerful tools in investing today—confidence. Your UBS Financial Advisor, backed by world-class research and resources, will work with you to create your plan that offers clear direction and relevant advice. Because in order to rebuild confidence in today's unpredictable marketplace, you need to surround yourself with a team you can count on.



Advice you can trust starts with a conversation.
Gregory Foster, Vice President–Investments
681 East Lake Street, Wayzata, MN 55391
952-475-9436 800-627-2463
greg.foster@ubs.com ubs.com/fa/gregfoster

UBS Financial Services Inc. is a subsidiary of UBS AG.
©2010 UBS Financial Services Inc. All rights reserved. Member SIPC. 31.20_Ad_4.85x2.33_RP1028_FosG

UBS

Minnesota Orchestra | U.S. Bank Pops Season

'80s REWIND!
WITH THE MINNESOTA ORCHESTRA
SARAH HICKS, CONDUCTOR
PLUS SIX VOCALISTS!
FRI MAY 6 & SAT MAY 7 8PM

TOTALLY AWESOME HITS BY:
MICHAEL JACKSON
MADONNA • PRINCE
BON JOVI • GUNS N' ROSES
THE POLICE • CINDY LAUPER
AND MORE!

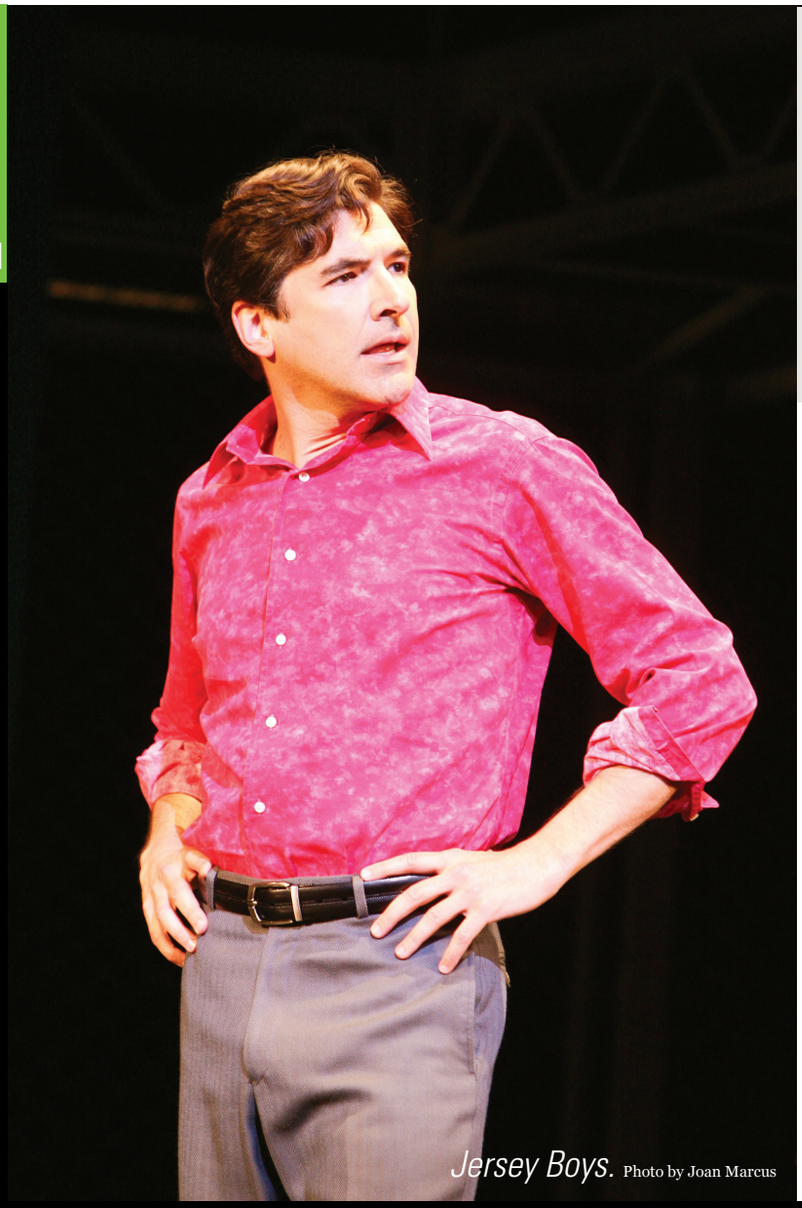


Orchestra Hall | minnesotaorchestra.org | 612.371.5656

Sponsored by: usbank. DELTA StarTribune

LAV415_p35_50.indd 35 4/14/11 4:37 PM

APRIL-MAY



Jersey Boys. Photo by Joan Marcus



Avenue Q. Photo by Rich Ryan



Dining Out for Life: Sven Sundgaard. Photo by Hubert Bonnet

CALENDAR

Note: This calendar includes events formerly in the Bar Calendar.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

GLBT Host Home Program of Avenues for Homeless Youth Informational Meeting. 6-8 PM. Midtown YWCA, 2121 E. Lake St., Mpls. (612) 522-1690, ext. 10. <www.avenuesforyouth.org> or <www.ywca-minneapolis.org>.

Jersey Boys. Through May 8. Orpheum Theatre, 910 Hennepin Ave., Mpls. (800) 982-2787. <www.hennepintheatretrust.org>.

The Somewhat Sci-Fi Variety Show. Through Apr. 23. Patrick's Cabaret, 3010 Minnehaha Ave. S., Mpls. (612) 721-3595. <www.patrickscabaret.org>.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

Man of La Mancha. Through Apr. 24. Ten Thousand Things @ Minnesota Opera Center, 620 N. 1st St., Mpls. (800) 838-3006. <www.tenthousandthings.org>.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Old Timers Party. 4-? PM. Town House, 1415 University Ave. W., St. Paul. (651) 646-7087. <www.townhousebar.com>.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

Art in Bloom. Through May 1. Minneapolis Institute of Arts, 2400 3rd Ave. S., Mpls. (612) 870-3000. <www.artsmia.org>.

Dining Out for Life. Benefits The Aliveness Project. Various food venues. (612) 824-LIFE (5433) <www.aliveness.org>.

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

Man of La Mancha. Through May 1. Ten Thousand Things @ Open Book, 1011 Washington Ave. S., Mpls. (800) 838-3006. <www.tenthousandthings.org>.

Call to Action Concert. 8 PM. Fitzgerald Theater, 10 E. Exchange St., St. Paul. (651) 290-1200. <www.ticketmaster.com>.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

Dame Elaine's Show. Benefits Breast Cancer Research, Education, Screening, and Treatment. 5-9 PM. Gay 90's, 408 Hennepin Ave., Mpls. <www.impcourtmn.com>.

Elegance. 9 PM. Town House, 1415 University Ave. W., St. Paul. (651) 646-7087. <www.townhousebar.com>.

Walk For Animals. Benefits Animal Humane Society. 8:30 AM-2 PM. Begins at Animal Humane Society, 845 Meadow Ln. N., Golden Valley, and continues through Theodore Wirth Park. (763) 522-4325. <www.animalhumanesociety.org/walk>.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

The Whiz: Moneyapolis. Through May 8. Northrop Dance & Bedlam Theatre @ Intermedia Arts, 2822 Lyndale Ave. S., Mpls. (612) 625-6600. <northrop.umn.edu>.

Mx. Justin Vivian Bond. 8 PM. The Southern Theater, 1420 Washington Ave. S., Mpls. (612) 340-1725. <www.southerntheater.org>.

Man of La Mancha. Through May 8. Ten Thousand Things @ Minnesota Opera Center, 620 N. 1st

LAV415_p35_50.indd 36 4/14/11 4:37 PM



Jeffrey. Photo by Mike Hnida



Uncle Vanya. Photo by Tamatha Miller



Next Fall. Photo by Rich Ryan

St., Mpls. (800) 838-3006. <www.tenthousandthings.org>.

Lip Service. 9 PM. Town House, 1415 University Ave. W., St. Paul. (651) 646-7087. <www.townhousebar.com>.

SATURDAY, MAY 7

Cabaret of the Senses. Benefits PFund Foundation. 7-11 PM. Guthrie Theater, Level 9, 818 S. 2nd St., Mpls. (612) 870-1806. <www.PFundOnline.org>.

ONGOING

Avenue Q. Through May 1. Mixed Blood Theatre, 1501 S. 4th St., Mpls. (612) 338-6131. <www.mixedblood.com>.

Dinner with the Tsars: Imperial Russian Porcelain. Through Aug. 7. The Museum of Russian Art, 5500 Stevens Ave. S., Mpls. (612) 821-9045. <www.tmora.org>.

It's Women's Work. Through Apr. 23. Open Eye Figure Theatre, 506 E. 24th St., Mpls. (612) 874-6338. <www.openeyetheatre.org>.

I Wish You Love. Through May 22. Penumbra Theatre. 270 N. Kent St., St. Paul. (651) 224-3180. <www.penumbratheatre.org>.

Jeffrey. Through May 7. Brazen Theatre @ Lowry Lab, 350 St. Peter St., St. Paul. (612) 991-8729 <www.brazentheatre.org>.

The Marvelous Wondrettes. Through July 24. Plymouth Playhouse, 2705 Annapolis Ln. N., Plymouth. (763) 553-1600. <www.plymouthplayhouse.com>.

Next Fall. Through May 22. Jungle Theater, 2951 Lyndale Ave. S., Mpls. (612) 822-7063. <www.jungletheater.com>.

Shades of Red: The Evolution of Early Soviet Art. Through Sept 15. The Museum of Russian Art, 5500 Stevens Ave. S., Mpls. (612) 821-9045. <www.tmora.org>.

The Small. Through May 1. Red Eye Theater, 15 W. 14th St., Mpls. (612) 870-0309. <www.redeyetheater.org>.

Three Viewings. Through May 14. Illusion Theater, 528 Hennepin Ave., Mpls. (612) 339-4944. <www.illusiontheater.org>.

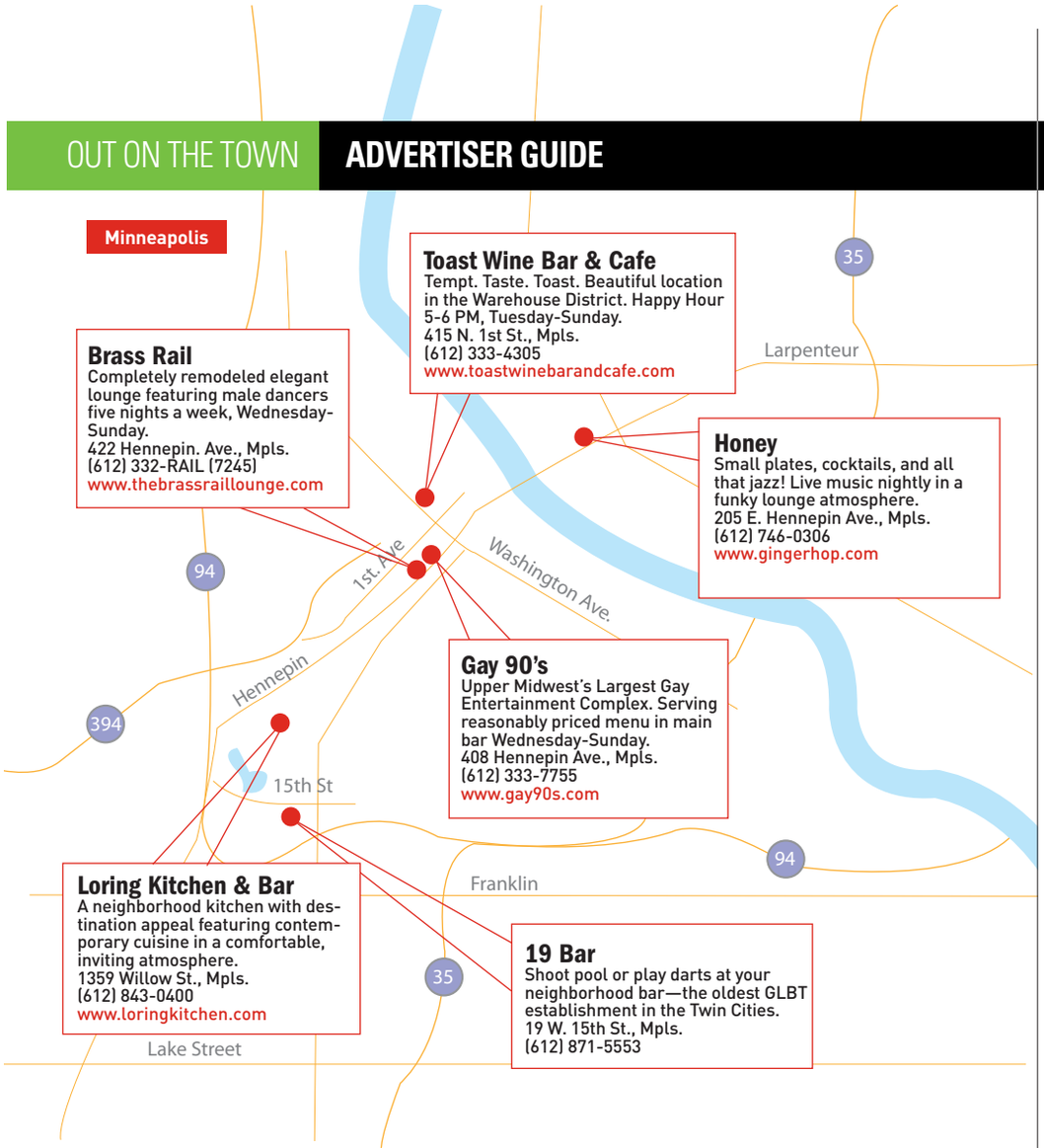
[title of show] Through Apr. 30. Urban Samurai Productions @ Sabes Jewish Community Center, 4330 Cedar Lake Rd. S., Mpls. (612) 524-5825. <www.urbansamurai.org>.

Tutankhamun: The Golden King and the Great Pharaohs. Through Sept. 5. Science Museum of Minnesota, 120 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul. (651) 221-9444. <www.smm.org>.

Uncle Vanya. Through Apr. 23. Gremlin Theatre. 2400 University Ave. W., St. Paul. (651) 228-7008. <www.gremlin-theatre.org>.

FOR MORE DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS OF EACH LISTING, VISIT <WWW.LAVENDERMAGAZINE.COM/CATEGORY/CALENDAR>

LAV415_p35_50.indd 37 4/14/11 4:37 PM



FEATURED BARTENDER



BRAD

WHO
Brad

WHAT
Recipe: Sweet Tart
2 parts Absolut Mandarin
1 part Watermelon Pucker
Splash of Cranberry Juice
Splash of Pineapple Juice

WHEN
Sat.-Sun. • 4:30 PM-2 AM

WHERE
Gay 90's
408 Hennepin Ave., Mpls.
(612) 333-7755
www.gay90s.com

WHY
"We serve great drinks at great prices in the recently-remodeled beautiful Happy Hour bar, featuring a spectacular video-satellite and sound system with 10 large HD display screens, which provides endless entertainment."

Photo by George Holdgrafer

LAV415_p35_50.indd 38 4/14/11 4:37 PM

GAY, STRAIGHT FRIENDLY, BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE!

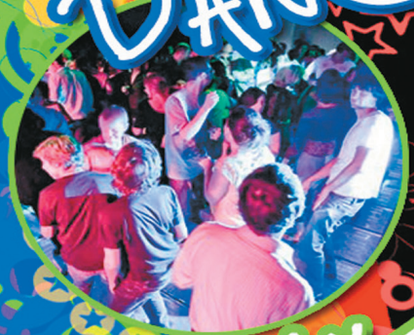
GAY 90's

DINING



Serving food Wed-Sun 5-9:30pm
Late Night Food Fri-Sun 11pm-3am

DANCING



7 Days a Week
Late Night til 3am Fri-Sun

DRINKING



Mon & Tues • 2-4-1's

Wed & Thur
$3 Bacardi & Rokk

Thursdays • $1 Rails
$1 Domestics & $5 Cover

DRAG



Drag Fabulous Drag
Tuesdays • Diamond Divas
Wed-Sun •Ladies of LaFemme

408 S. Hennepin Ave • MPLS, MN 55401 • GAY90S.COM

LAV415_p35_50.indd 39 4/14/11 4:37 PM

BRASS RAIL

April 10










LAV415_p35_50.indd 40 4/14/11 4:37 PM









LAV415_p35_50.indd 41 4/14/11 4:37 PM

TWIN CITIES GAY POOL LEAGUE YEAR-END TOURNAMENT

April 9
Town House











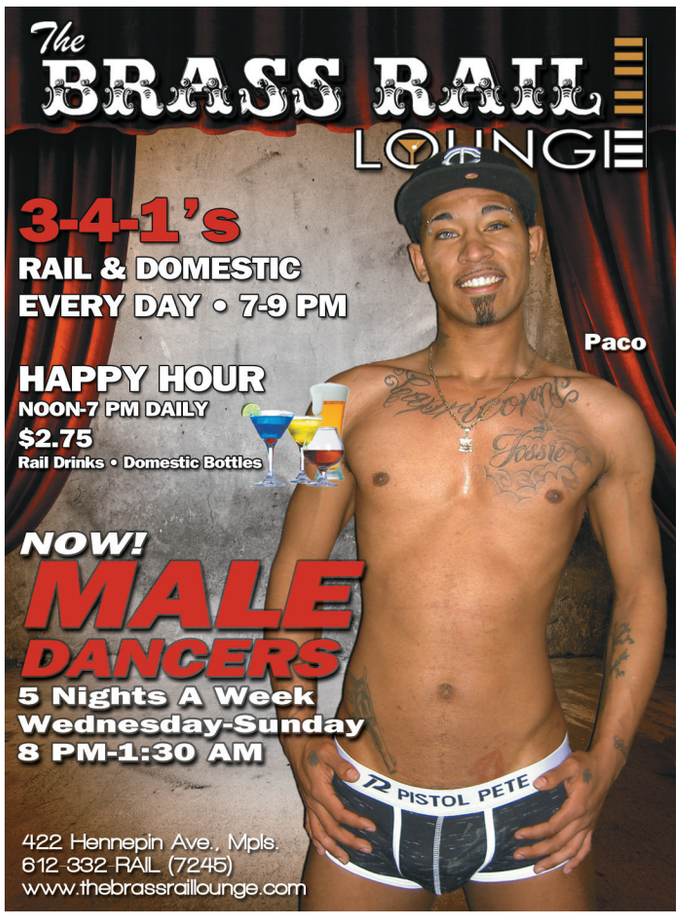
1 Craig Schmidt (center) of the Twin Cities Gay Pool League presented a check for $500 to The Aliveness Project, represented by Johnny Herda-Anzaldo (left); Town House owner Holly Monnett (right) hosted the tournament.

2 First Place: Tickles—(from left) Mike, Troy, John. Not pictured: Joel, Brant.

3 Second Place: 19 Bar Number One—(from left) Gabriel, Jerry, Mary, Nate. Not pictured: Naomi.

4 Third Place: 19 Bar Number Two—(from left) Greg, Brian, Mark, Roger.

5 Highest Scoring Person: Troy Meyers from Tickles





LAV415_p35_50.indd 42 4/14/11 4:38 PM

LAVENDER's
APRIL
BAR SALUTE

Imperial Court of Minnesota

Dame Elaine's Show
Saturday, April 30
5-9 PM

Benefits Breast Cancer Research, Education, Screening, and Treatment

Show Your Support By Wearing Pink

Gay 90's
408 Hennepin Ave., Mpls.

www.impcourtmn.com

Simply the Best.

park tavern

BEST WINGS —Wingfest 2005-2006

BEST PIZZA —City Pages

BEST BOWLING CENTER —Mpls/St.Paul Magazine

BEST HAPPY HOUR —City Pages

BEST BURGERS —Mpls/St.Paul Magazine

BEST PLACE TO HOST A CORPORATE PARTY —Twin Cities Business

BEST PLACE TO HOST A FUNDRAISER —Phil Weber (owner)

3401 Louisiana Ave. So. • St. Louis Park (952) 929-6810 • ParkTavern.net

burger moe's

WHISKEY WEDNESDAYS
$3 Jameson all day, every Wednesday

OPEN MIC NIGHT
Come have fun and support your local music at Burger Moe's!
Every Friday 9pm-1am

BEST BURGER in TOWN!

1 ½ Blocks west of the Xcel Energy Center | www.burgermoes.com
242 West 7th Street | Saint Paul, MN 55102 | 651.222.3100

LK&B

LORING KITCHEN & BAR



MARTINI MONDAYS
$5 BELEVEDERE
LOUNGE LIZARD KARAOKE - 9PM

www.LoringKitchen.com • [612] 843 0400
1359 willow street • minneapolis

LAV415_p35_50.indd 43 4/14/11 4:38 PM







LORING KITCHEN AND BAR

This establishment serves reasonably-priced superlative cuisine paired with excellent libations.

It's a little too easy to fall for the Loring Kitchen and Bar at first sight. Sunlight streams into the handsome, sleek interior from Loring Park year-round, but as the weather continues to improve, al fresco dining is this restaurant's forte. The staff is friendly and personable; the drinks are imaginative; and the menu focuses on that kind of comfort-food-with-a-twist every vibrant neighborhood desperately needs.

LAV415_p35_50.indd 44 4/14/11 4:38 PM

I was once a dedicated Loring neighborhood resident myself, but began avoiding the crowded area for years when I lost my resident parking privileges. That nasty little problem is solved at the Loring Kitchen and Bar with complimentary valet parking after 5 PM. It's such a small perk, but if you're looking to spend a relaxing, enjoyable evening, the last thing you want to do is start by hunting for parking around Loring. Plus, I'd rather spend that parking money on a truly fantastic cocktail—wouldn't you?

Speaking of, my date for the evening was spectacularly late—you know, the kind of late where the servers suspect that he might, in fact, be imaginary. Therefore, I had the first drink all to myself: an unnamed and off-menu delight of champagne, lemon juice, and St. Germaine.

Before I got too far into my second libation—the breathtaking Ginger Sidecar ($10), with E & J Brandy, Stirrings Ginger Liqueur, housemade sweet and sour, fresh lime, and a cinnamon-sugar rim—my date materialized at last. I was very glad finally to have some company, but the Ginger Sidecar is one of those clever cocktails you don't necessarily want to share. Ah well, the company was definitely worth it, and the food had started to arrive.

Beet and Arugula Salad ($7) is fairly standard, and a difficult dish to improve upon, but the Loring Kitchen and Bar's treatment of tart champagne vinaigrette, shaved Parmesan, and whipped goat cheese was a nice touch that kept the salad feeling exceptionally light.

The large Crab Croquettes ($16) set a bolder tone with sriracha-spiked aioli, along with a bed of sliced avocado, mango, and cucumber. It's always a bit of a dilemma to enjoy a dish a little too much a little too early in a food writer's evening. That was my first thought, but on second thought, these are the kinds of problems one wants to have. We ate all the croquettes.

In between courses, we indulged in the bar's second-tier champagne flight. At $15, it was an excellent value, especially considering that just one of the three flutes was listed at $12. Besides appreciating a great deal, I always relish the opportunity to explore different sparkling wines. Depending on the bottle, champagne can be quite serviceable at points throughout a meal, from aperitif through dessert. Plus, it's fun and sexy, and always makes a meal more memorable.

And this meal in particular is one I'd like to remember. Truffle and Herb Risotto ($18) arrived almost as quickly as its aroma. Its grape tomatoes, baby arugula, corn shiitake mushrooms, coriander-infused oil, and Parmesan all were subdued, but pleasantly so, by the sensual scent of truffle. It's not entirely rare that a foodie has a special kink for truffle oil, but over this one issue I won't mind feeling conventional.

A glass of Lincourt "Steel" Chardonnay ($48/bottle) and crisp Hugel and Fils Gentil Alsace ($38/$10) made a very effective transition from the Risotto to the Arctic Char ($26). The night we dined there, the bar staff was very on the mark with pairings. When I go there again, I will make a point of putting myself entirely in their hands.

Our char, served over Israeli couscous, smoked grapes, cilantro, oven-dried cherry tomatoes, and oyster mushrooms, was fragrant with an exotic North African-style charmoula. If you haven't yet had the pleasure of this particular fish, Arctic char, fairly similar to salmon, often is praised by environmentalists for being more sustainable to farm. Additionally, the restaurant's menu features so many upscale American staples that it was very satisfying also to be able to enjoy something more unique.







(Facing page, from left) Artic Char over Israeli Couscous; dining area. (This page, clockwise from upper left) Crab Croquettes with Sparkling Wine Flight; Beet and Arugula Salad; Triple Layered Chocolate Cake with Steltzner Claret. Photos by Hubert Bonnet

If your trip to the Loring Kitchen and Bar is geared more to dessert and drinks, the Triple Layered Chocolate Cake ($5) is as rich and decadent as a Belgian truffle. As the weather continues to warm, take your slice outside on the patio, gaze at the stars, and enjoy your cake as the good Lord intended—with a glass of fruity Steltzner Claret ($38/$10). Just like that, you're relaxed and sated, feeling far, far away right in the middle of Loring.

Certainly, everyone is entitled to favorite special occasion places and guilty pleasure dives. But as far as reliable neighborhood restaurants go, it doesn't get much better than this for the price. □

Loring Kitchen and Bar
1359 Willow St., Mpls.
(612) 843-0400
www.loringkitchen.com

LAV415_p35_50.indd 45 4/14/11 4:38 PM

[WILDE ROAST CAFÉ WILL MOVE TO RIVERPLACE]



Wilde Roast Café owners Tom DeGree and Dean Schlaak. Photo by Barry Leavitt

AFTER SEVEN YEARS near the corner of Hennepin and Central Avenues in Northeast Minneapolis, in June, Wilde Roast Café will be moving to a larger space in Riverplace at 65 Main Street South, Minneapolis, with more outdoor dining and facilities for an expanded menu.

Co-owner Tom DeGree says, "We're moving to a fantastic larger space by the river, with more outdoor seating and a beautiful view of the river. In addition to many other changes, we are very excited to be able to expand our kitchen and menu, especially by adding homemade ice cream just in time for summer."

Many changes are coming to Wilde Roast Café in June:

- Larger space overlooking the Mississippi River—6,300 square feet, compared to the current location's 2,300 square feet.
- Greatly increased outdoor seating overlooking the Mississippi River—40-plus outdoor seats, compared to the current location's 10 seats.
- Expanded menu featuring homemade ice cream, a burger bar, tap beer, and more locally-grown foods.
- Extended hours to accommodate moviegoers and Guthrie Theater patrons.
- More catering options to serve local businesses and organizations.

Wilde Roast Café has been a destination for Northeast Minneapolis neighbors, area workers, and the greater Twin Cities since March 2004.

The establishment has received numerous awards and mentions, including Best Café from *Lavender*. However, the most lavish accolade of all may be the September 2006 cover of Bon Appétit, on which the café's flourless chocolate cake, La Bête Noir, was featured.

Wilde Roast Café provides "cultivated leisure" seven days a week. Featuring creative comfort food with an emphasis on fresh ingredients and from-scratch cooking, it offers breakfast, lunch, and dinner entreés, including sandwiches, pizzas, quesadillas, and specialty items. In addition, it serves desserts made in-house; beer and wine; and a full range of coffee and espresso drinks. Wilde Roast Café is a welcoming, cozy, and sophisticated gathering place.

For more information, visit <www.wilderoastcafe.com>.

[Wine]

Mes Trois Amours

by Heidi Fellner

Before taking an exploratory drive through Sonoma Valley, I never had heard of the family-run Ledson Winery. Its gothic architecture, however, was enough to invite curiosity. As it happens, my ignorance was excusable. The Ledson Winery doesn't *do* distribution. Apparently, the establishment doesn't need to. It's a destination winery. So, if you want to experience my favorite Ledson wine, Mes Trois Amours (My Three Loves)—$36—you either have to go to Sonoma, or order it online at <www.ledsonwinery.com>. A blend of grenache, mourvèdre, syrah, and merlot, Mes Trois Amours is delectably smoky, fruity, and dry. In essence, it's the perfect wine to pair with barbeque or any pork dish.



Photo Courtesy of Ledson Winery

LAV415_p35_50.indd 46 4/14/11 4:38 PM

A Food Co-op is a Grocery Store for Everyone
Comfort Food and World Cuisine together, under one roof.
Not a member? Not a problem. Everyone Welcome, Every Day.
15,000 of your neighbors own the Wedge. Come and see why.
2105 Lyndale Ave. S.
612-871-3993
THE WEDGE
Mon-Fri 9-10 | Sat & Sun 9-9 | www.wedge.coop

CHRISTOS
Greek Restaurant & Catering Service
Minneapolis - (612) 871-2111
St. Paul - (651) 224-6000
Minnetonka - (612) 912-1000
WWW.CHRISTOS.COM

Jakeeno's
Pizza & Pasta
... since 1975 ...
TWO HAPPY HOURS
4-6 pm & 8-10 pm Daily
2 for 1 Beers, 1/2 off Wine
Appetizer Specials
612.825.6827
3555 Chicago Avenue South, Minneapolis

Vinaigrette
Oil and vinegar to tap, taste and treasure
5006 Xerxes Ave. S. Mpls
(612) 922-9192 We can ship your order!
info@vinaigrettemn.com
www.vinaigrettemn.com
Olive Oils Scents & Lotions by Olivella

TUM RUP THAI
Early and Late Night Happy Hour Takeout Available Gift Certificates Available
1221 W. Lake Street 612-824-1378 www.tumrupthai.com

TOAST
wine bar & cafe
Voted Best Wine Bar by Lavender readers for the Fab 50 Awards!
Proudly participating in 2011 Dining Out for Life
50% of evenings proceeds going to
Dining Out for Life
Dine Out, Fight AIDS
Call today for your reservation
612.333.4305
612.333.4305
415 N. 1st st. - Minneapolis
Hours: Tu-Th & Sun. 5-11pm
Fri & Sat 5pm-midnight

Hennepin & West 26th Minneapolis 612.874.0481
Selby & Dale Saint Paul 651.221.9140
The NEW UPTOWN Diner
The NEW Louisiana Cafe
eat good FOOD it's that simple.
The NEW WOODBURY Cafe
The NEW Grandview Grill
Bielenberg & Tamarack Woodbury 651.209.8182
Grand Avenue & Fairview Saint Paul 651.698.2346

LAV415_p35_50.indd 47 4/14/11 4:38 PM

Honestly, Though

PICTURE IT: I move into a nice new place with one of my BFFs, Ty (same building, across the hall). Within six hours of living here, Ty and I get our first noise complaint. Our next-door neighbor, Tammy, tells us our bass woke her up—at 9 PM. Seriously, Tams? 9 PM?

Buckle up, sister. We signed 12-month leases. For real, though: We'll be quiet for ya. If it does get loud, bet your bottom dollar that it's all Ty's fault—even though he doesn't know how to use the speakers.

Anyway, with that out of the way, the same night we moved in, I had a lovely man, who sent me flowers just the week before, over to see the new place, and help set up all the cords behind my television (I'm a technophobe).

The night goes splendidly. Ty, Flowers Guy, and I go to Lyndale Tap House for a late-night dinner (me: turkey club, fries, Diet Coke—delish). We chat about regular stuff, like what we're going to do over the weekend, and how fat we are for eating fries—as we shovel them into our mouths. I buy Flowers Guy a $3 beer. Ty likes Flowers Guy (thinks I should date him), and drops hints that I *really* like Flowers Guy (not untrue, but I don't know him well enough to judge at this point).

I'm the guy who can't find anyone, by the way, and I know exactly why: I'm too picky.

Or is it that I like being single too much?

Or maybe it's the other way around, and no one likes *me*.

Crap. I guess I *don't* know why I'm still single.

I invite Flowers Guy to stay the night, and *cuddle* (I don't hook up—I cuddle up). He asks me while we wait to fall asleep if I just want to be friends or what.

Just cuddle buddies, I say. I like cuddle buddies.

He asks if there are other cuddle buddies. Oh, geez. Yes, there are.

Flowers Guy: "I can't do that. I can't just separate this from my emotions."

He jumps out of bed, puts on his clothes, and storms out of my six-hour-old apartment.

Oh. Maybe that's why I'm single. But you know what? I'm honest. □

NEVERSTRAIGHT.COM
THE GLBT TOY SUPERSTORE



Never straight. Always forward.
18,000+ Products shipped discreetly.
www.neverstraight.com

LAV415_p35_50.indd 48 4/14/11 4:38 PM



THROW A SPRING BLOOMS PARTY

AS THE WORLD reawakens, so does our entertaining spirit. Hose down the porch, and throw open the windows—it's time for spring-cleaning the house; the garage; and, yes, even the guest list. Let's *add to* and *weed out* whom we normally invite to our parties, and make what might otherwise be a predictable event something fresh.

→ **Invitations** should set an established theme and goal. Are we celebrating, or just getting together? Try enclosing a packet of pansy seeds in every invitation.

→ **Drinks** for our Spring Blooms theme should be brightly-colored with light flavors: a fresh Lemon Drop martini, a sultry Sidecar, and a sparkling lemonade, all garnished with pansies. A good rule is two spiked beverages and one nonalcoholic beverage for the bar. Cocktails that can be made before the party are a must.

→ **The menu** is as bright as it is delicious: simple apricots with chopped walnuts and blue cheese; rye crackers topped with honey cream cheese and radish microgreens; and a vegetable platter of vivid sliced peppers and ricotta pesto dip. For a hot appetizer, baked bacon-wrapped green olives. To finish, bite-size key lime pies, using the recipe you found last winter in Key West. The menu and cocktails can and *should* be prepped the day before.

→ **Decor** comes straight from the garden. Use sod as a table runner in the kitchen, and on the coffee table, the sideboard, and the patio. Tape down trimmed lawn bags as an underlayment. Once the sod is laid out, fluff it, and cut a few holes with a kitchen knife. Pop pansies into the hole, and you've got an instant spring centerpiece.

→ **Party time** arrives, and you greet your guests at the door—preferably with cocktails in hand, on a tray, or on a nearby table. You made drinks and menu items ahead of time, and everything's under control, so you now can be the perfect host.

→ **Postparty**, put your guest list, recipes, and notes in a folder, including photographs. This party book will help you organize your next great event. Every successful party makes you and your guests look forward to the next. □



Spirits from Haskell's • Pansies from Frattallone's Ace Hardware • Glassware from Target

We hope to see you this summer at the Eastcliff Garden Party in June and at Evening on the Terrace at the Governor's Residence in July.

LAV415_p35_50.indd 49 4/14/11 4:38 PM



BORDEAUX, FRANCE

This city has much to offer at rock-bottom prices, plus, of course, its famous wine.



A FRANCOPHILE'S DILEMMA: Where to find the ideal trifecta of food, wine, and culture? (Oh, and shopping.) Easy. Bordeaux.

You know the wine (worship it, in fact). So, come to the source, and get to know the city, too. It's as easy on the eyes as it is on the palate, and only two hours and change south of Paris on the speedy TGV train.

The Romans got here first—and planted vines, in fact. They sailed here up the Garonne River, and Bordeaux has served as an important port city ever since. On the remains of a Roman temple stands a temple of another sort today: the Opera House of 1780, its centuries of grime newly-scrubbed, as are all the city's buildings. Across the plaza, where trams silently slither, is the grand Regent Hotel, composed of five town houses of the same era, whose restaurant glimmers with a new Michelin star.

Ut anchors Ste. Catherine Street, an avenue of shopping frenzy—a solid wall of people the day the twice-annual sales began, when boutiques cut prices by 50 to 70 percent, meaning, yes, you can snatch that snazzy manbag and those designer boots at prices rivaling Walmart's.

Christine, our guide on a walking tour of the historic district, declares. "Bon! Alors!" It's a city, she says, proud of homeboys she calls the Three Ms: Montaigne, Montesquieu, and Mauriac. (The fourth, Moliere, merely stopped by in 1554.) Above cobbled lanes, dainty wrought-iron balconies cling to the fancy facades of Bordeaux's heyday—the 1700s—leading to the UNESCO-preserved Cathedral Square.

Bon! Alors! The dominating church itself, and its stand-alone bell tower, begun in 1034, boasts the formidable flying buttresses of its 13th-to-15th-Century rehabs. Here, in its



(Clockwise from above) Center square. • Entrance to the city. • Small street in the old part of the city. Photos by T. Sanson



LAV415_p35_50.indd 50 4/14/11 4:38 PM





(Above) Place de La Bourse. (Right) Cours du Chapeau Rouge. Photos by T. Sanson

chapel, Eleanor of Aquitaine married Louis VII of France (before her later hubby, Henry II of England).

At the neighboring Hotel de Ville (still Town Hall today), Napoleon held office. During the French Revolution that dashed the nobles, it served as a lowly warehouse. Down the street, the Museum of Decorative Arts occupies a sumptuous 18th-Century mansion showcasing the pretty furnishings of those doomed aristocrats The far-less-elegant Museum of the Resistance bristles with spirit, if not English captions, as it traces the exodus to concentration camps.

On the grand waterfront promenade, where concerts and light shows draw crowds, follow those incessant joggers to the Merchant District, where a warehouse, this time, has been restored as the mind-blowing Museum of Contemporary Art. Bonus: a buzzing restaurant serving local specialties like foie gras, oysters, mussels with frites, and a hearty Croque Monsieur sandwich. Plus, the you-know-what wine of the region, of course.

Speaking of wine: Sign on for a two-hour course (25 euros) at l'Ecole du Vin (which I dubbed Wine School for Dummies) to gain insight into why Bordeaux tastes so lovely (and which Bordeaux crus taste the loveliest of all). To nix marketing shenanigans, its production is regulated strictly by law: six allowable white grapes and six allowable red grapes, of which the glorious Cabernet Sauvignon is undisputed king.

The region boasts 8,000 wineries—most, miniscule—which have nature to thank for producing the world's most esteemed bottles: cool ocean air, ideal terroir (soil), and the ability (again, by law) to blend the six varietals. We learned that those on the river's left bank produce stronger, smokier, "broodier" wines, rich with the perfume of black fruit.

Next, we sniff vials to try our skill at identifying aromas often found in wine: licorice, smoky oak, violets, cherries, what have you. Then, time to taste: a left-bank red to compare with a right-bank red; a white; and a sweet wine, perfect for foie gras. And, what a coincidence: foie gras, truffles, and walnuts are the regional specialties, for which we thank our lucky stars at dinner.

Dinner divine, right in our home, the Regent: Save your pennies for a live-only-once splurge in its Michelin-blessed restaurant. Here, a memorable five-course dinner costs the best 120 euros you probably ever will spend: prawns with caviar atop Belgian waffle; scallops with asparagus and smoked quail egg on greens; king crab in a coconut emulsion with those famous truffles; a fromagerie's worth of local cheeses; and, finally, a dream dessert fashioned of raspberries, olives, cookies, a Szechuan salty mousse, and balsamic ice cream (proving you don't gain that star for nothing). Or, simply go for its famed lobster, with a tableside show in a silver press (25 euros).

Across the plaza, under the twinkling chandeliers of the Opera Café, lunch on cheesy cream puffs, braised duck on mashed potatoes, or veal blanquette, then profiteroles or tarte tatin (19 euros total). Quel deal!

Which proves that you can't afford to stay home. The Tourist Office offers three-day, two-night packages beginning at 105 euros, which includes hotel, wine class, city tour, winery tour, free museum entrances—and more, more, more.

Visit <www.bordeauxtourisme.com> and <www.franceguide.com/us>. □

Web
gayguideBordeaux.com

Best Gay Bars
Bateau Ivre
(newest, hottest hangout)
Go West
("all pleasures are permitted"
in this cool, trendy club)
Le Babylone
(karaoke rules)
Le Codebar
(cruising with a slice of drag)
L'Azuli
(bring your disco shoes)

Accommodations
Acanthe Hotel
(homey digs in historic center)

Sauna
Le Saint Jacque

Massage
Terre d'Eveil

Shop
Boutiqiue Ekivoq
("boutique erotique")
Touristique
(hot swimwear)

Gay Pride
June 2011

LAV415_p51_66.indd 51 4/15/11 3:00 PM



[XELIAS AERIAL ARTS STUDIO]

If you were like me as a kid, besides the day when teacher pulled the rainbow-colored parachute out of the closet (no pun intended), gymnastics was your favorite gym-class theme.

Remember climbing the ropes, doing flips on the rings, and tumbling around on those all-too-thin wrestling mats?

Then, of course, think of the Olympic games on television and every Cirque du Soleil event, with all the far-too-athletic-and-muscular-to-be-real men and women who have balance, strength, and coordination most of us only can dream of.

Well, it was with these thoughts in mind that I sought to find out: Do everyday people really engage in this stuff?

My curiosity led me to Xelias Aerial Arts Studio in Northeast Minneapolis. I discovered that, yes, lots of people are doing gymnastics every day, and it is every bit as thrilling—and challenging—as it looks when the pros do it.

Meg Elias, founder, artistic director, and coach at Xelias, told me all about her growing studio.









Photo Courtesy of Xelias Aerial Arts Studio

You might think that gymnastics as we know it is just for kids. However, I was surprised to learn that more and more, adults are finding Xelias. The coaches and trainers there have professional performance experience, and really drive the experience for students.

Elias says, "Kids have so many choices for athletics and sports. But for adults and other young people who are not into ball sports or team sports, gymnastics, core strength, stretching is totally their thing."

Xelias classes allow more artsy folks out there to express their athleticism in a thrilling, artistic way. When you walk into the studio, you are surrounded by a beautiful landscape of clouds, plus subdued lighting. The space is welcoming, with fun music playing in the background. It's definitely not a gym feel.

The atmosphere may not be a typical gym experience, but the workout certainly is. Sessions focus on strengthening and conditioning, as well as, of course, learning new circus tricks.

As Elias assures, "It's a very supportive environment."

Elias notes, "We have students of all ages, all shapes, all sizes, all genders. And, we have a strict 'no watching' policy. We want all the students to be involved, committed to learning the workout, and participating. And the students really do want to 'get it right.'"

When students learn a new trick, classmates live that excitement with them, often breaking into applause and cheers.

Students get to try out "verticals," which are tricks on the ropes, or the tissu, the fabric stuff that experienced aerial artists basically "dance" in the air with.

Elias warns, "The tissu is very humbling. Everyone wants to try it, but it takes a ton of practice."

To gear up for the tissu, everyone learns partner aerobics, tumbling, and body positioning first.

As Elias explains, "Everyone learns at their own pace. Dancers and athletes tend to be easier to coach, because they already have more 'body awareness.' But we push everyone at their own ability level."

The highlight of every class season: showcase events. Experienced students get the chance to design their own routines, while coaches and trainers guide the rest. Every student from every class, regardless of age or experience, is given the opportunity to be part of the showcase.

Elias remarks, "This is really how the students express themselves. It is really fun to see them choosing their costumes and the right music for their performance."

Xelias has summer sessions starting May 24, plus an intense four-day Circus Boot Camp in June.

Find out more about Xelias at <www.watchhumansfly.com>. □

LAV415_p51_66.indd 52 4/15/11 3:00 PM

One of the **tragedies** of the smokeless tobacco campaign is that it is designed to create the appearance that the product is giving LGBTQ smokers a way to "break free" from cigarettes.

Make no mistake, smokeless tobacco is just another addictive form of tobacco use. The tobacco industry is **spending millions** of dollars **targeting LGBTQ communities and people of color**, encouraging people to switch instead of quit. The tragic thing is that smokeless tobacco can still cause throat, mouth, stomach, and pancreatic cancers.

Even more **tragic** is what will likely occur through the use of smokeless tobacco. Smokers will use when they can't smoke to meet their need for **nicotine**, thus **maintaining** their cigarette **addiction** and reducing the likelihood of quitting.

RAINBOW HEALTH INITIATIVE

www.rainbowhealth.org

for help to quit smoking, GLBTCallItQuitsMN.com
CallItQuitsMN hotline: 1-866-434-9736

LAV415_p51_66.indd 53 4/15/11 3:00 PM

Lavender offers you more great ways to **STAY CONNECTED!**

Become a fan of Big Gay News and Lavender on Facebook & Twitter to receive alerts and invitations to Lavender events.

Download Big Gay News & Wanda Wisdom at iTunes.com.

Have the latest local, national, and international news emailed to you via BigGayNews.com.

Listen to Wanda Wisdom's daily radio show, and check out her hilarious videos on YouTube.com.

FOLLOW US. LAVENDERMAGAZINE.COM



I LOVE MY:

Kids

Spouse

Friends

There are many reasons to quit smoking. Your family and friends are two of the best reasons. Contact QUITPLAN® Services today for all the free help you need to quit smoking, including a free personalized plan and professional counseling. Call 1-888-354-PLAN or visit quitplan.com.

QUITPLAN®

LAVENDER LENS |
Photos by Sophia Hantzes

HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN SPRING BOWLING FOR EQUALITY

March 27
Park Tavern











LAV415_p51_66.indd 54 4/15/11 3:00 PM

ACCOUNTING & BOOKKEEPING SERVICES

Silvernale Accounting Services
Taxes • Payroll • Accounting
John Silvernale
612-280-5463
info@silvernaleaccounting.com
www.silvernaleaccounting.com

ROR Tax Professionals
4500 Park Glen Rd.
Suite 425
St. Louis Park, MN
55416
p 612-822-7177
f 612-822-2163
RORTax.com

AUTOMOTIVE

HAGEN'S AUTO BODY
Family owned and operated for over 60 years!
Full service for all makes and models
Free Estimates
Insurance Approved
www.hagensautobody.com
28th & Lyndale Ave S, MPLS
(612) 872-6671

ATTORNEYS

Fabian Hoffner Attorney
DWI – Criminal Defense
Former Assistant Attorney General
(612) 305-4428
FabianHoffner.com

You can now see the network online
DIGITAL EDITION. LAVENDERMAGAZINE.COM

BARBERS

Barbers on Bryant
A New Fashioned Barbershop
2920 Bryant Ave S #105 • Minneapolis
BarbersOnBryant.com
Appointments Recommended
Audie: 612.203.1880

BEAUTY & RELAXATION

Full Service Salon & Spa for Men and Women
eclectic spalon
Hair, make-up, facials, pedi/mani, massage, body wraps, ear candling, lash/brow tinting, waxing, sunless tanning, eyelash extensions.
Experienced staff, quality service.
2377 Shadywood Road • Orono, MN
(612) 399-6610
www.eclecticspalon.com

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Home Business Opportunity
Couple earning 6 figure income looking for business partners to build successful home-based businesses in the health/wellness and green markets.
Trust us. Worth a 20 minute look.
612-259-8118
WWW.COOGAN.MYSHAKLEE.COM

FINANCIAL SERVICES

The Harbor Group, Inc.
An Independent Financial and Legal Firm
200 Village Center Drive, Suite 700
North Oaks, MN 55127
651-633-5611
www.harborgroupcommunity.com
Securities offered through Harbour Investments, Inc.
Member FINRA/SIPC

HEALTH & FITNESS

Get Hard.... Get-Real-Fitness
Helps you get ROCK HARD!
Invest in your Personalized Training Routine today and get the body you deserve.
Free Consultation: 952-486-3344
www.Get-Real-Fitness.com

HOME SERVICES

Stafford Home Service
Home Comfort Experts!
Dreaming of a home theater system?
Stop dreaming and call us!
Serving Minneapolis and the GLBT Community since 1951.
Call for a FREE in-home estimate.
STAFFORD HOME SERVICE
ELECTRIC • HEATING • COOLING
AUDIO • VIDEO • SECURITY
LIFE. STYLE. INSTALLED™
952-927-7194
www.staffordhomeservice.com
facebook.com/StaffordHomeService

Lorenz Concrete
Driveways, Patios, Sidewalks, Steps and Decorative Concrete
651-408-1800
lorenzconcrete.com



Done in a Day. Beautiful for Life.
Besides granite, we also offer gorgeous recycled glass, tile for backsplash, sinks, faucets, mirror surrounds, and cabinet hardware to upgrade your kitchen or bath!
GRANITE transformations
NO DEMOLITION | ONE DAY INSTALLATION
*STAIN *HEAT *SCRATCH * BACTERIA RESISTANT
Call for a FREE-in home design consultation & estimate
Visit our showroom at 575 Shoreview Park Road, Shoreview
651-777-7600
www.granitetransformations.com

Mr. Handyman
On time. Done right.®
Put Mr. Handyman to work for you!
- Drywall Repairs
- Tile/Grout
- Door Install/Adjust
- Caulk/Grout
- Deck Repair/Clean/Stain
- Repair, Improve, Maintain!

Locally Owned and Operated
PROFESSIONAL, SAFE AND RELIABLE
LIC# 20633898 · BONDED & INSURED
612-547-7000
www.mrhandyman.com

LAV415_p51_66.indd 55 4/15/11 3:01 PM

The L List
Your connection to GLBT...

News

Events

Giveaways

Sign up today!

Visit LavenderMagazine.com and look for the E-Newsletter sign up at the top of our website.



BUSINESS PROFILE | by Heidi Fellner



Photo by Hubert Bonnet

FIRST EQUITY MORTGAGE

It's safe to say mortgage companies have a bit of a PR problem right now, but for those that managed to stay in business, the reputation is usually undeserved. Here's why: In the wake of the scandals emerging from Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, surviving mortgage companies were ultimately the ones that maintained ethical business practices all along. The industry went through a pretty serious house-cleaning.

First Equity Mortgage owner David Lozinski says, "In 2005, there were 3,500 mortgage companies. In 2011, there are only 224. The 224 that have survived did the right thing for their customers."

First Equity Mortgage never has lost a lawsuit, and never has had so much as a complaint submitted to the Attorney General's office.

Mpls.St.Paul Magazine listed Lozinski among the Super Mortgage Professionals in 2010. Lori and Julia of 107.1 FM personally have endorsed his company, which is quite an honor, as it's the only mortgage company to get such a nod. Lozinski also is known as "The Gay Gourmet" on 107.1 FM's *The Cathie and Colleen Show*.

Shopping for a mortgage probably isn't on any home buyer's list of fun ways to spend an afternoon, but one of the reasons Lozinski receives so many accolades is his willingness to sit down with a client, and explain mortgages in everyday language.

As Lozinski notes, "I have a degree in accounting and a degree in business, but my love is socializing and talking to people. You can have the smartest doctor in the world, but the *best* doctor has a good bedside manner."

Lozinski, who doesn't view himself as a salesperson, as so many loan officers tended to do in the past, declares, "If you talked to any of my clients, they'll tell you I become friends with them. And if you're a friend of someone, you treat them right."

As well, Lozinski is known for helping the self-employed buy a house in today's market, and for serving the GLBT community, including those who are in the process of transitioning, which can complicate mortgage documents if handled improperly.

First Equity Mortgage may be the only gay-owned mortgage business in the five-state area—at least, that Lozinski knows of—but for him, it's still about the bottom line when it comes to customers.

Lozinski remarks, "Don't come to me because we're gay-owned. Come to me because I'm going to treat you with the respect that every individual needs. I'll give you the best customer service, and the best interest rates I can find. We give you the best of everything, and that's what you deserve." □

First Equity Mortgage
Office: (952) 697-3525
Cell: (612) 868-6968
www.femort.com

LAV415_p51_66.indd 56 4/15/11 3:01 PM

HOME SERVICES

SOS HOMECARE
RESTORATION • RENOVATION
MAINTENANCE • REPAIR
CARPENTRY • KITCHENS • TILING • PLASTERING
BATHROOM • CONCRETE • DECKS • PATIOS
FREE ESTIMATES
Your Complete Professional HomeCare Company
SOSHOMECAREMN.COM
TODD OR LEE
612-374-3222
MN LIC#BC-20270903

A - Z ELECTRIC
We'll do (almost) anything A-Z!
All forms of Home Services provided!
No job too small • Residential or Commercial
24 Hour Service • Licensed Bonded Insured
Chris 612.275.2117

ProHomeRenovating.com
612-205-5618
- carpentry & remodeling
- painting & repairs
- other home maintenance
- no job is too small
Gay owned and operated since 1986.

The Tree Guy
Expert, Experienced, Credentialed
"Helping home & woodland owners, municipalities, commercial clients for over 30 years."
Philip Klocksien
Consulting Forester
Certifications
- ISA Arborist (Licensed, Insured)
- DNR Tree Inspector
- Forest Stewardship Contract Plan Preparer
- Certified by:
Services
All The Usual Chainsaw-Related Tasks
PLUS - Expert & Objective Consultation, Advice & Diagnosis.
If the question or project involves your yard or woodland, I'M THE EXPERT resource you need.
Let's Talk Trees
651.387.4512
Treeguyphilip@msn.com
Ask me about woodland owner tax benefits.
Tree Protection Project, Inc.
Supporting Diversity In Both Natural & Human Communities

HOME SERVICES

MATT'S TREE SERVICE
CABLING, PRUNING, & REMOVALS
LICENSED AND INSURED
"We'll go OUT on a limb for you."
Serving the Metro Area
FREE Estimates for Removal & Trimming
Residential & Commercial Services
ISA Certified Arborist on Staff
Tree Removal • Tree Trimming • Chipping
Stump Grinding • Storm Damage
Lot Clearing • Hedge & Shrub Pruning
24 yrs. Experience • Credit Cards accepted
Office: 612-706-8210
Cell: 612-998-3157

PPC
PERSONAL PRIDE
-CONSTRUCTION-
Roofing, Siding, Remodels, Additions, Kitchens, Bathrooms, More
Offering you our PERSONAL best for the PRIDE of your home.
www.personalprideconstruction.com
Tom Spears 612-598-5448
Bonded & Insured Lic #20330460

Visit www.castlebri.com or call us at 651-699-4164 or 612-789-8509
MN License #5657
Castle
Building & Remodeling
Hours
M, T, TH, F 9am - 6pm
Wednesday 9am - 8pm
Saturday 10am - 3pm
Sunday Closed
A Better Experience. www.castlebri.com GUARANTEED
- Free Kitchen & Bath Design
- Monthly Education Classes - Check Website
- Staffed Design Selection Studios at:
1) 2600 Johnson St. NE Mpls, MN 55418
2) 362 Snelling Ave. S St. Paul, MN 55105
- Lifetime Warranty
- No Unforeseen Change Orders
- Guaranteed Completion Date
Remodeling Flooring Design Services Kitchen & Bath Handyman Services

SODERLIN
612-721-4080 SINCE 1914
PLUMBING, HEATING & AIR
Serving the entire Twin Cities Area
Emergency Service Available
WWW.SODERLIN.COM
3612 Cedar Avenue South Minneapolis MN 55407
Licensed, Bonded & Insured LICENSE #M1764#M359

HOME SERVICES

Good Stuff MOVING
651-488-4808
Small Local Company
Very best service for the very best price.
www.goodstuffmoving.com

Twin City Heating and Air
Masters in Gas, Refrigeration, and Warm Air
FREE In-Home Estimates
Minneapolis 612-366-1934
St. Paul 612-366-9712
Surrounding Areas 763-757-4678
Servicing the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area
twincityheatingandair.com

HOUSE CLEANING

GREEN AS A WHISTLE
Residential & Commercial Cleaning Services
The best clean with green!
All of our products are non-toxic & biodegradable.
Insured and bonded!
Call Today! (651) 895-3322 • www.greenasawhistle.org

INSURANCE

Hamilton-Clark Group
Auto Home
Life Financial
Kelly H. Clark
(612) 729-1509
HamiltonClarkGroup.com

Steve Wolfson
612-822-1190
1516 West Lake St., Ste. 203 • Minneapolis
swolfson@farmersagent.com
FARMERS

STATE FARM INSURANCE
Davina Baldwin | 763.535.4788
6262 Boone Ave. N.
Brooklyn Park, MN 55428
www.davinabaldwin.com
davina@davinabaldwin.com
Auto | Home | Life | Health | Business
Davina M. Baldwin

To Advertise in THE NETWORK
Call 612-436-4698

LAV415_p51_66.indd 57 4/15/11 3:01 PM



Tampons and Feet

WHEN I WAS a kid, my mother was so uptight about anything having to do with sex that once, when scrounging through her purse looking for gum, I came across a wrapped tampon in her purse. When I asked her what it was, she said, "Leave that alone—it's for my feet."

About a year later, when my cousin, Alice, confided in me that she thought she was having her first period, I hesitantly approached my mother, and said, "I know you're not comfortable with the subject, but I think Alice needs to see a podiatrist."

Later that afternoon, I found myself in the Dr. Scholl's section of the supermarket, helping Alice look for anything that would absorb. Or at least make her taller.

That same year, being the audiovisual geek of the seventh grade, I managed to smuggle out of school a copy of "The Film."

You remember "The Film." It's the one that only the girls were allowed to see, and was apparently a darn good excuse for missing math class.

That Saturday afternoon, with my parents safely away shopping, there was a private screening of "The Film" for my brothers and our friends in our basement.

Frankly, I was quite disappointed. "The Film" was a Walt Disney Production, and all I remember is a series of colorful, animated butterflies flitting around from flower to flower. I learned nothing about female sexuality. At the time, though, I was very confused. Just what did Walt Disney have to do with "becoming a woman?"

In case you were wondering, this sudden flood of adolescent memories occurred to me just this morning at Target. I witnessed a young girl pulling a tampon from a box in her mother's shopping cart.

"What's this?" the girl queried.

Her obviously flustered grandmother took the tampon, turned it, examined it at various angles, and even held it up to the light.

"I don't know, honey", she said, "but it looks like something you might use on your feet."

Well, why should this generation be raised any differently than we were?

Tacky column. Period. But consider the source.

Bye for now.

Kiss, kiss. □

GLBT News & Lifestyle at your fingertips?

APPsolutely!™

You can now find LAVENDER® Magazine on the App Store.
LAVENDER® Magazine works with iPad™.



Apple, the Apple logo, iPhone, iPod touch, and iTunes are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries.
iPad is a trademark of Apple Inc. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc.

LAV415_p51_66.indd 58 4/15/11 3:01 PM

PET PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Nokomis Pet Clinic
The Neighborhood Pet Clinic
2917 East 42nd Street
Minneapolis, MN 55406
Phone:612-767-4546
Amos Deinard, DVM
www.NokomisPetClinic.com

bubbly paws
Self Service Dog Wash & Dog Spa
Located at *the shops at excelsior and grand*
in St Louis Park
3730 Grand Way, St Louis Park, MN 55416
952-657-5300
www.bubblypaws.com

PSYCHOTHERAPY

Kate Heffelfinger, M.A., P.A.
Licensed Psychologist
Mindful Intentional Living
Individual & Couples Therapy
No Cost Initial Session
Most Insurance Accepted
Visa/Mastercard Accepted
Lake Pointe Centre
3100 W. Lake St., Ste #419
Minneapolis, MN 55416
612.922.9100
kate_heffelfinger@msn.com

Specializing in: Respectful, Client-Centered Therapy
Kathy Vader, MA, Licensed Psychologist
6950 France Ave. S. • Suite 14 • Edina
952.929.3123



Tom Glaser, MS
Licensed Psychologist
612-240-4289
www.tomglaserlp.com

PSYCHOTHERAPY

Steve Burns, Ph.D.
Licensed Psychologist • 612-990-0649
Hours by appointment Tuesday - Friday
Northland Therapy Center
Convenient Midway Location
2324 University Ave. W., Suite 100
www.NorthlandTherapyCenter.com

Thomas P. Carrillo PH.D., P.A.
Licensed Psychologist
Individual & Couples Therapy
400 S. 4th St. #854, Minneapolis 612.288.5000
1600 University Ave. W., #505, St. Paul 651.645.0980
Evening appointments, most major insurance accepted, and major credit cards accepted.

REAL ESTATE

Bargain-hunter for hire.
ANN LEVITON
Broker/Owner
Your OUT of the Ordinary Real Estate Specialist SM
MAVRIK REALTY
realestatefairy.com
612.270.5722





To Advertise in THE NETWORK Call 612-436-4698

Want to WIN an easy $100?



Help get a thousand more people to 'Like' **Lavender Magazine's Facebook** page and one lucky 'Like'–er will walk away $100 richer!

Share our page on Facebook and tell all your friends.

You might just be our lucky $100 winner!

LAVENDERMAGAZINE.COM

LAV415_p51_66.indd 59 4/15/11 3:01 PM



Someday My Prince Will Come

I AM WRITING this column in my head while standing in a two-hour line at Disneyland to meet some $%#$^#*! Disney princesses with my 4-year-old niece, Danielle.

Before we entered the line, Danielle required a costume change. Now, like the 5,000 other cranky children standing in the relentless sun, she is dressed in an elaborate princess costume, and carrying a magic wand.

I want to use the wand to smack the hell out of all the screaming, crabby, badly-behaved children in this line. But, apparently, you are not allowed to smack children at Disneyland—just another reason to hate this place.

The cost of admission for the two of us was about $200, and the kid isn't interested in anything but the damned princesses.

I forced Danielle to go on *It's a Small World After All*, but she refused to sing along.

As we sat on the ride, Danielle crossed her arms firmly across her chest, and made a pout reminiscent of the time I made her try Brussels sprouts.

"Come on, Danielle," I pleaded, as I desperately tried to get her interested in the Dumbo ride. "Have some fun."

"I'm not having any fun until I meet Mulan," Danielle said.

Mulan! Of course, of all the princesses in the Disney kingdom, Danielle had to pick the most elusive one.

Rumor has it that Mulan only appears on "special days" at Disneyland. When I was Danielle's age, my mother used to refer to her menstrual cycle as her "special days." I hope this doesn't mean that we'll be subjected to the cranky, bloated, teary Mulan.

"Listen, Danielle," I said, after I finally gave in, and escorted her to the Princess Gulag—a festering pink holding cell for all the troubled children who want their picture taken with a member of Disney royalty. "I don't support this interest of yours in princesses at all.

"They're terrible role models. All they want to do is get married, and sing to animals. This has never resulted in a fulfilling life. I've made you watch *Mad Men*. Look at that poor Betty Draper. She's a mess, and totally reliant on a man, because she doesn't know how to take care of herself."

"She's pretty, and she lives in a big house," Danielle said, swinging her wand at me, hoping to transform me into a helpful, singing/dancing Disney rodent. "Plus, Mommy says you shouldn't let me watch *Mad Men*. Or sip your beer. Or sit on your lap and steer when you're driving."

"Your mother is insane. I'm trying to prepare you for life," I explained.

The night before, Danielle and I had an argument over what she should be when she grows up. She said a nurse. I said a doctor.

"Nurses take care of people," Danielle argued.

"So do doctors. And they make a lot more money," I said.

"Nurses get to wear white dresses," Danielle countered.

"What the hell is wrong with you?" I yelled, which is how most of our arguments end.

About an hour into our wait to meet the princesses, Danielle turned to me, and said, "Aunt Jen, this is boring. Can we cheat?"

My eyes lit up. Maybe there's hope for this kid after all.

I broke out of the princess queue. I put Danielle on my shoulders. I scaled the wall that was surrounding the princesses, so that she could peek over. There, on the other side of the wall, was Mulan...who ordered a guard to shoo us away.

Danielle and I ran away giggling.

"Mulan is a jerk," Danielle concluded. "Let's meet Minnie Mouse instead."

"Now you're talking," I said. "She's an independent gal who never allowed a man to come between her dreams or ambitions. And Mickey respects her all the more for it." □

Hey! I wrote a book. You can buy Dateland *on Amazon.*

TROLIN, UN DIABLITO ROSA **por RODRO**



I donate my butt to science -Jose

I donate my butt to a museum -Miguel

I keep mine. It's in use. -Trolín

LAV415_p51_66.indd 60 4/15/11 3:01 PM

BEAUTY & RELAXATION

get lazed. Laser Hair Removal in Uptown. Upfront pricing. Book online. Evening & weekends available. Non-metered parking. www.GetLazedMN.com. (612) 627-9999. hairy@getlazedmn.com. 2920 Bryant Ave South.

EMPLOYMENT

EXPERIENCED
ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE WANTED

Are you passionate about advertising? Do you have a track record of success?

Work as a print and/or online **Advertising Account Executive** for Lavender Media, leaders in GLBT marketing and events.

You should possess strong sales skills, be self-motivated, energetic, goal-oriented, organized, responsible, and able to work as part of a team.

Make your dream a reality.

Send your cover letter and resume to:
barry@lavendermagazine.com

No phone calls please.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

PARTNER WITH YOUR PARTNER - Open a Entrust Self Directed IRA and invest with your partner in alternative retirement investments like real estate or a business. Entrust Midwest Self Directed IRA Administrator. (763) 559- 5363. tgrill@theentrustgroup.com.

HELP WANTED

FREE ARTS MINNESOTA: Looking for volunteers to work with abused, neglected, at-risk children using art and mentorship. Time commitment of 1.5 hours weekly. More information, Hannah, (612) 824-2787. www.freeartsminnesota.org.

HOLISTIC HEALTH

STRESSED? TIRED? - Try Reiki Healing Energy. Release headache, cold symptoms. Enhance focus and clarity of mind. Restore energy balance. Sale! 2 1-hour sessions $60. (952) 988-9916. Irene, Certified Reiki Practitioner.

HOME FURNISHINGS

COTTAGE HOUSE • An Occasional Market • Next sale: *GARDEN FEVER!* MAY 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 Wed. 1-8 pm. Thr-Fri 10am-7pm. Sat-Sun 10am-6pm. • 4304 Chicago Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN. www.thecottagehousempls.com.

HOME SERVICES

Excellent Painting. Highest-quality painting service. Authentic, friendly, Professional. Twenty-five years experience. Licensed. Insured. Absolute satisfaction guaranteed! Twin Cities Metro, (612) 605-3236, www.Excellent-Painting.com.

HOUSE CLEANING

TERRY LIDDELL, Residential cleaning. Dependable - Honest. Excellent references. Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, flexible schedules. tliddellcleaning@yahoo.com. Call Terry: (612) 834-4887.

PSYCHOTHERAPY

Specialists in Women's Issues for almost 20 years. Self esteem, uncoupling, communication issues, depression, grief/loss, family/ job stress, codependency, coming out, and more. Insurance/sliding fee scale. (612) 275-2653, www.thegatecounseling.com.

OWEN KONECNIK, MA, MSW, LICSW, Psychotherapist: Individual and couples counseling. Confidential, non-judgmental, affirming. Credit cards accepted. Free phone consultation. Lake & Lyndale location. (612) 558-6094. www.counselorminneapolis.com.

IRENE GREENE, MSEd, Psychotherapist: 24 years experience. Individual, Couples Counseling, Mediation. Life changes, relationship, gender, sexuality, parenting, anger, anxiety, depression. Coming Out, Sexual Abuse, DID Groups. Sliding fee. Professional, nonjudgmental, confidential. (612) 874-6442. irenegreene@earthlink.net.

DENNIS CHRISTIAN, LICSW. (612) 940-7033. www.dennischristian.com.

SPA SERVICES

THE SPA by PetertGlaser@yahoo.com. 2736 Hennepin, **UPTOWN**. 612.986.4929 Catering to the Beauty Rituals for all Men and Women. Handcrafted Natural **Facials**. Body and **Brazilian Waxing** and Trimming. **Manicures**. Pedicures. Massage.

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE

STRONG & RELAXING hands, resulting in bodywork at its best! Bruck, MT, DC in South Minneapolis @ (612) 306

Treat yourself to a complete relaxation. Trained by the Aveda Institute. Over five years in practice. Emanual Tekle, CMT (612) 396-8912, www.MassageFitnessMpls.com.

FULL BODY DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE. Relax & Unwind from Head to Toe. Private S. Mpls Studio. Music, Candles, Jacuzzi, Full Bath. In/Out Calls. 7 days. 10am - 10pm. (612) 388-8993. Keith.

REAL & GOOD - m4m massage by experienced responsive masseur. Many repeat clients. Studio, shower and lots of TLC. Near DT Mpls, noon-10 pm, 7 days. Gene: **(612) 749-7726**. Thanks!

FULL BODY MASSAGE. Warm relaxing atmosphere, Minneapolis. Hour Massage $60.00. Shower Available. (612) 219-6743. 7 days a week, 10 am - 10 pm. Therapist: 5'10, 167#, 32 waist.

GOT ME? I'll do your body good. Swedish, Deep Tissue, Shiatsu & Thai. California trained and certified. Call anytime. Kurt: (612) 338-3329.

BORING...BORING...BORING !!! Sick of boring, mediocre sessions? This time... get unbelievably pampered and have lots of fun with a hot, talented masseur! **These sessions are very unique, extremely erotic, totally uninhibited, and smokin' hot!!!** Call for details (no pressure to hire) - you're gonna love this! Kevin, (612) 229-0001.

You're gonna flip for the Lavender Digital Edition.

New Full Screen Mode.



DIGITAL EDITION. LAVENDERMAGAZINE.COM

LAVENDER MAGAZINE.COM

To reserve your space in the CLASSIFIEDS please contact

Suzanne Farrell
(612) 436-4699
Suzanne@lavendermagazine.com



LAV415_p51_66.indd 61 4/15/11 3:01 PM

Community Connection brings visibility to local GLBT-friendly nonprofit organizations. To reserve your listing in Community Connection, call 612-436-4698 or email advertising@lavendermagazine.com.

AIDS/HIV & TREATMENT

Aliveness Project, The
Community Center for Individuals Living with HIV/AIDS – On-site Meals, Food Shelf and Supportive Services.
730 East 38th St. Minneapolis, MN
(612) 824-LIFE (5433) www.aliveness.org

HIM Program - Red Door Services
Hennepin County Public Health Clinic.
525 Portland Ave., 4th Fl.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 348-9100
www.HIMprogram.org
www.StopSyphMN.com
www.inSPOT.org/Minnesota
www.Capsprogram.orga

Minnesota AIDS Project AIDSLine
The AIDSLine is the statewide referral service to connect with HIV information and resources.
1400 Park Ave.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 373-AIDS (metro) or
(800) 248-AIDS (statewide)
mapaidsline@mnaidsproject.org
www.mnaidsproject.org

Park House
Day Health / Mental Health Treatment Program for Adults Living with HIV/AIDS.
710 E. 24th Street, Suite 303
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 871-1264
www.allina.com/ahs/anw.nsf/page/park_house_home

U of MN Research Studies
Looking for HIV+ and HIV- individuals to participate in research studies.
420 Delaware Street SE
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 625-7472

ART GALLERIES

Minneapolis Institute of Arts
Enjoy Masterpieces From All Over The World And Every Period Of Human History. Free Admission Daily!
2400 3rd Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN
(612) 870-3000
www.artsmia.org

ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

Zeitgeist Arts
Café – Cinema – Theater
"Let us entertain you!"
Zeitgeist Arts Building
222 E. Superior St.
Duluth, MN
(218) 722-9100 Café
(218) 722-7300 Cinema
(218) 336-1414 Theater
www.zeitgeistarts.com

EDUCATION

Minnesota Online High School
Small statewide, public online high school open to any Minnesota resident in grades 9 through 12.
1313 5th St. SE, Ste. 300
Minneapolis, MN
(800) 764-8166
www.mnohs.org

FITNESS

YWCA of Minneapolis
Healthy Me. Healthy Community. Serving men, women and families. Fitness locations in Downtown, Midtown, Uptown.
1130 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 332-0501
www.ywcampls.org

HEALTH & WELLNESS

GLBTCALLITQUITS.COM
If you're ready to quit smoking, we're here to support you.
(866) 434-9736

Rainbow Health Initiative
Working to improve the health of LGBTQ Minnesotans through education, clinical practice, outreach, and advocacy. RHI is the lead agency for the MN Tobacco-free Lavender Communities.
611-A West Lake Street
Minneapolis, MN
(877) 499-7744
www.rainbowhealth.org
www.mntlc.org

Sexual Health Empowerment (S.H.E.) Clinic
Uninsured? Underinsured? Sexual health services for female-bodied, queer-identified individuals provided on a sliding fee scale.
33 South 5th St.
Minneapolis, MN (612) 332-2311
www.midwesthealthcenter.org

HISTORICAL

Minnesota History Center
History comes to life with permanent and changing exhibits, concerts, lectures, family days and other special events. Featuring Cafe Minnesota, museum shops and the Minnesota Historical Society Library.
345 Kellogg Blvd W.
St. Paul, MN
(651) 259-3000
www.minnesotahistorycenter.org

Historic Fort Snelling
Experience life at a U.S. outpost on the bluffs of the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers.
200 Tower Ave.
St. Paul, MN
(612) 726-1171
www.historicfortsnelling.org

James J. Hill House
Marvel at the 19th-century opulence and grandeur of Summit Avenue's most stately mansion.
240 Summit Ave
St. Paul, MN
(651) 297-2555
www.mnhs.org/hillhouse

Minnesota State Capitol
Discover the architectural masterpiece by Cass Gilbert and the home of Minnesota's state government.
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN
(651) 296-2881
www.mnhs.org/statecapitol

LIBRARY

Quatrefoil Library
Your GLBT Library with stacks of DVDs, books, and magazines.
Check out our online catalogue.
1619 Dayton Ave., No. 105
St. Paul, MN
(651) 641-0969
www.qlibrary.org

MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

Radio K 770
Radio K is the award-winning student-run radio station of the University of Minnesota
330 21st Ave. S.
610 Rarig Center
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 625-3500
www.radiok.org

MUSEUM

Science Museum of Minnesota
The Science Museum is the Upper Midwest's must-see, must-do museum.
120 W. Kellogg Blvd
St. Paul, MN
(651) 221-2547
http://www.smm.org/tut

Mill City Museum
Raw power, dramatic views and hands-on fun propels you through this architecturally stunning riverfront landmark.
704 S. 2nd St.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 341-7555
www.millcitymuseum.org

Walker Art Center
Internationally recognized as a leading venue for the presentation of the art of our time.
1750 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 375-7600
www.walkerart.org

PERFORMING ARTS

Brazen Theatre
Plays, musicals, cabaret and other entertainment for adventurous audiences. See individual ads for venue
(612) 991-8729
www.brazentheatre.org

Hennepin Theatre Trust
Orpheum, State and Pantages Theatres
Twin Cities' best live entertainment: Broadway shows, music concerts, comedy, dance and more!
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 673-0404
www.HennepinTheatreDistrict.org

History Theatre
Plays and musicals that illuminate the broad American experience, celebrating local legends, rock icons, and everyday people.
30 East 10th Street
St. Paul, MN
(651) 292-4323
www.HistoryTheatre.com

Illusion Theater
Nationally renowned for developing artists and new work while sparking conversation about challenging human issues.
528 Hennepin Ave., 8th Fl.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 339-4944
www.illusiontheater.org

Jungle Theater
Professional theater producing contemporary and classic works in an intimate setting in the Lynlake neighborhood.
2951 Lyndale Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN
(612) 822-7063
www.JungleTheater.com

Minneapolis Musical Theatre
"Giving Voice to the Human Experience" - New and Rarely-Seen Musicals.
8520 W. 29th St.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 605-3298
www.aboutmmt.org

Minnesota Orchestra
Led by Music Director Osmo Vänskä, the Minnesota Orchestra, one of America's leading symphony orchestras.
1111 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis, MN
(612) 371-5656 (800) 292-4141
www.minnesotaorchestra.org

Minnesota Philharmonic Orchestra
An instrumental voice for the GLBT community, the MPO presents innovative, high quality orchestral performances.
P.O. Box 6116
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 656-5676
www.mnphil.org

Mixed Blood Theatre
1501 S. 4th St.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 338-0937
www.mixedblood.com

Northrop - University of Minnesota
A legacy of presenting diverse world-class dance and music artists.
(612) 625-6600
northrop.umn.edu

Ordway Center for the Performing Arts
Hosting, presenting, and creating performing arts and educational programs that enrich diverse audiences.
345 Washington St.
St. Paul, MN
(651) 224-4222
www.ordway.org

Park Square Theatre
Creating entertainment that matters; transporting you to unique worlds through exceptional talent and masterful stories.
20 West Seventh Pl. Saint Paul, MN
(651) 291-7005
www.parksquaretheatre.org

Theater Latté Da
Exploring and expanding the art of musical theater under the artistic direction of Peter Rohstein.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 339-3003
www.latteda.org

The Minnesota Opera
America's most exciting opera company - tickets start at just $20.
620 N. 1st St.
Minneapolis, MN (612) 342-9550
www.mnopera.org

Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus
An award-winning chorus that builds community through music and offers entertainment worth coming out for!
528 Hennepin Ave., Suite 307
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 339-SONG (7664)
chorus@tcgmc.org
www.tcgmc.org

University of Minnesota Theatre Arts and Dance
Educating artists and audiences through a diverse mix of performances on both land and water.
U of M Theatre
330 21st Ave S, Minneapolis, MN
(612) 624-2345
www.theatre.umn.edu

PETS/PET SERVICES

Animal Humane Society
Adoption, rescue, outreach, training, boarding. Buffalo, Coon Rapids, Golden Valley, St. Paul and Woodbury.
(763) 432-4527
www.animalhumanesociety.org

Greyhound Pets of America-Minnesota
Dedicated to finding homes for retired racing greyhounds. Greyhounds are calm, good-natured, and make excellent pets.
info@gpa-mn.org
www.gpa-mn.org

LAV415_p51_66.indd 62 4/15/11 3:01 PM

POLITICS & RIGHTS

Human Rights Campaign
Advocates for all GLBT Americans, mobilizes grassroots action, invests strategically to elect fair-minded individuals.
P.O. Box 50608 Minneapolis, MN
www.twincities.hrc.org www.hrc.org

Marry Me Minnesota
Founded by same-sex couples suing the State for marriage equality. We welcome your support.
P. O. Box 22256
Robbinsdale, MN
(763) 219-1206
www.marrymeminnesota.org

Minnesota Log Cabin Republicans
Inclusion Wins.
115 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis, MN
www.mnlogcabin.org

OutFront Minnesota
Delivering programs/services in the area of public policy, anti-violence, education and training, and law.
310 E. 38th St., Ste. 204
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 822-0127
www.outfront.org

PRIDE

Twin Cities Pride
The third-largest national Pride celebration seeks sponsors, volunteers, and board members. Contact us today.
2021 East Hennepin Ave, Ste. 460
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 305-6900
www.tcpride.org

RELIGIOUS & SPIRITUAL

All God's Children Metropolitan Community Church
The radically inclusive GLBTQ community of faith.
3100 Park Ave.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 824-2673
www.agcmcc.org

Central Lutheran Church
We welcome all people to discover, celebrate and share the love of Christ.
333 Twelfth St. S.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 870-4416
www.centralmpls.org

Central Presbyterian Church
Size isn't everything. Connections and intimacy of a small church in a majestic space.
500 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55101
(651) 224-4728
www.cpcstpaul.org

Edina Community Lutheran Church
Upbeat, growing congregation committed to inclusion, justice, peace, community and proclaiming God's YES to all.
4113 W. 54th St.
Edina, MN
(952) 926-3808
www.eclc.org

Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church
Take a Spiritual Journey With Hennepin's Faith Community Through Worship, Education, Fellowship, Service, and More.
511 Groveland Ave. Minneapolis, MN
(612) 871-5303
www.haumc.org

The House of Hope Presbyterian Church,
A covenant network congregation welcoming all people.
797 Summit Ave.
St. Paul, MN
(651) 227-6311
www.hohchurch.org

Mayflower Community Congregational United Church of Christ
An open and affirming, peace with justice church welcomes you.
106 E. Diamond Lake Rd.
(I-35 & Diamond Lake Rd.)
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 824-0761
www.mayflowermpls.org

Plymouth Congregational Church, Minneapolis
A Beacon of Liberal Theology. Progressive Christianity, Traditional Setting & Service, Social Action, The Arts & Music.
1900 Nicollet Ave. at Franklin
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 871-7400
www.plymouth.org

St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral
Wherever you are on your faith journey... St. Mark's Welcomes You.
519 Oak Grove St. Minneapolis, MN
(612) 870-7800
www.ourcathedral.org

St. Paul-Reformation Lutheran Church with Wingspan Ministry
+ PASTORAL CARE + EDUCATION + WITNESS + ADVOCACY + Outreach of St. Paul-Reformation Church to the GLBTQA Community.
100 N. Oxford St.
St. Paul, MN
(651) 224-3371
www.stpaulref.org

United Methodist Reconciling Churches
Congregations around Minnesota that intentionally welcome all people regardless of sexual orientation or gender idenity.
www.mnrcumc.org

Wesley Church
Offering hope and encouragement to all people. An embracing congregation. Greg Renstrom, Minister.
101 E. Grant St.
Minneapolis, MN
Office: (612) 871-3585
Pastor: (612) 886-2863

Westminster Presbyterian Church
A Covenant Network Congregation, Working Toward a Church as Generous and Just as God's Grace.
Nicollet Mall at 12th St. Minneapolis, MN
(612) 332-3421
www.ewestminster.org

RETIREMENT

The Kenwood Retirement Community
Our full service retirement community provides Independent, Assisted Living and Short Term apartment rentals.
825 Summit Avenue, Minneapolis, MN
(612) 374-8100
www.thekenwood.net

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Community Shares of Minnesota
Community Shares of Minnesota raises funds and awareness for local organizations fighting for justice and equality.
1619 Dayton Avenue, Suite 323
St.Paul, MN
(651) 647-0440
changeisbetter.org

SPORTS & RECREATION

Twin Cities Goodtime Softball League (TCGSL)
Join 500 GLBT softball players as we celebrate 32 years of gay softball in Minnesota.
PO Box 580264
Minneapolis, MN
www.tcgsl.org

STUDENT/CAMPUS/ALUMNI

University of Minnesota GLBTA Programs Office
Dedicated to improving campus climate by developing and supporting more inclusive understandings of gender and sexuality.
46 Appleby Hall
128 Pleasant St. SE
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 625-0537
www.glbta.umn.edu

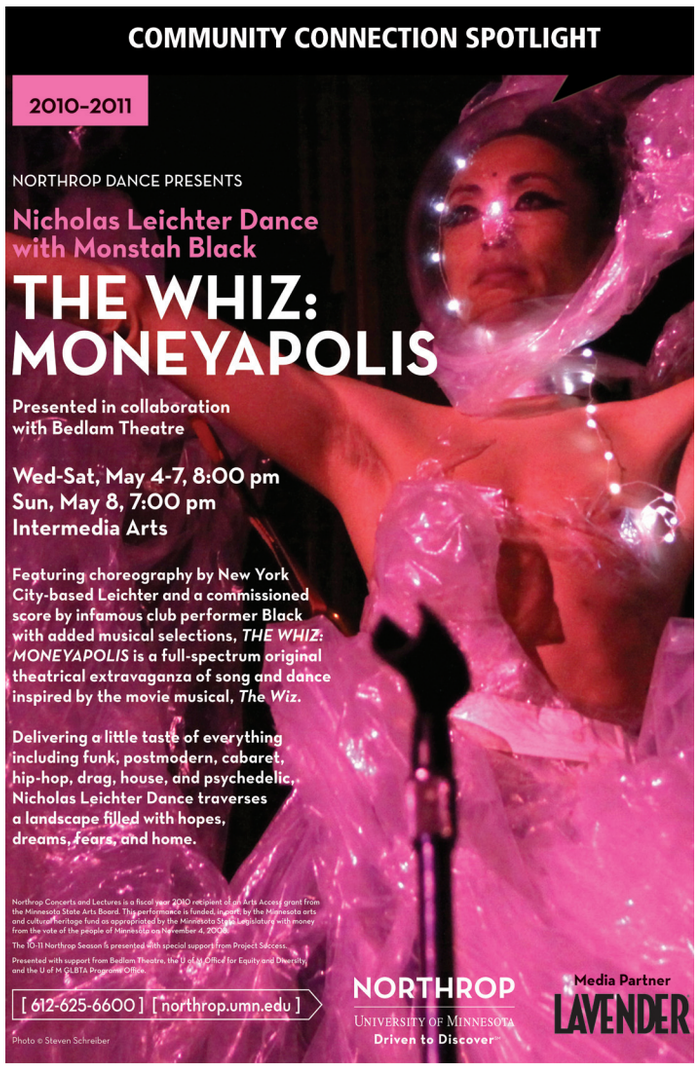
TRAVEL

Door County Visitor Bureau
www.doorcounty.com

Winneshiek County Convention & Visitors Bureau / Discover Decorah
Refresh, rejuvenate, rekindle....whatever R&R you're up for, the Decorah area is the ultimate heaven
507 West Water Street
Decorah, IA 52101
(800) 463-4692
www.visitdecorah.com

ZOOS

Minnesota Zoo
Open year-round. More than 2,400 animals to explore.
Numerous special events.
13000 Zoo Blvd.
Apple Valley MN
(952) 431-9200
www.mnzoo.org



LAV415_p51_66.indd 63 4/15/11 3:01 PM

MS. BEHAVIOR | by Meryl Cohn

Dear Ms. Behavior:

My problem may seem not to be one at all to most people, but it is eating away at me slowly. One of my best friends, an openly-gay and rather-flamboyant man, recently has decided to "turn straight." He has been dating and sleeping with a woman. He often feels the need to tell me how great the sex is.

My first reaction was to joke with him, in disbelief. But over the past several months, he has dropped out of the gay scene in favor of staying in with his new woman, or going away for romantic weekends with her.

More recently, he has taken offense at my jokes about his "becoming a breeder." He defends the relationship by saying, "She knows what I've done and what I like," adding, "She likes women also. She's very open-minded."

He now expects me to be happy for this new person in his life, but I can't bring myself to do so. To me, the whole relationship appears to be two desperate individuals getting together as a last resort.

I see my once-independent and confident friend as a person who has chosen to take the easy way out, "settling" for a relationship that requires minimal effort.

Am I wrong to feel this way? Should I just "snap out of it," and be happy for my friend? Or, do I have the right to want true happiness for him?

I don't want our friendship to end, but I don't see much hope if he continues living in a fantasy world where his sexual preference can be switched on and off like a light switch.

Please help!

—MR. REALITY CHECK

Dear Mr. Reality Check:

Your surprise seems to indicate that your "flamboyant" friend's sexual orientation never before seemed fluid, or at least not to you.

So, if he's a close friend who suddenly is trying to be straight now, aren't you curious about why?

Because you value your friendship with him, a curious attitude would be the best you can take, as opposed to a judgmental one—"Look at that queen trying to pass himself off as straight!"—or a frightened one—"What if I never get my friend back?" or "OMG, what if I myself wake up someday with a strange and nagging desire to touch female breasts?"

The bottom line is that it is best to ask questions, and try to understand your friend, while saving your judgment for later.

Why do people who have worn tiaras and







LAV415_p51_66.indd 64 4/15/11 3:01 PM

marched in gay parades suddenly jump the fence?

It happens for a variety of reasons:

(1) Self-loathing.

(2) Money motivation—e.g., a large homophobic bequest being left only to straight offspring.

(3) Religious beliefs or brainwashing.

(4) A deluded desire to become someone else in time for a significant life milestone or event—e.g., the need to gain approval in time for a reunion or a 40th birthday.

(5) A phase. Or a need to get rid of heterosexual "virginity."

(6) Youth and fluidity. Younger people don't pay attention to labels the way that older people do.

(7) Sometimes, gay people find other gays of the opposite gender, and form families or have sexual relationships with them. This is their definition of queer, and it seems to work for them.

(8) Confusion.

(9) Kinkiness. Yes, straight is the new kinky.

(10) Unexpectedly falling in love with an unlikely person—e.g., of the "wrong" gender. Yes, it does happen, though it's rare.

You're going through a sense of loss, because your friend, as you once knew him, is gone—at least for now. You can't just "snap out of it," or change the way you feel.

But this gives you an opportunity to learn to be a more-supportive friend. Keep in mind that the fat lady hasn't sung yet.

Meanwhile, we obviously are going to have to tighten the homo borders. Too many people have jumped the fence lately, which must mean a security breach.

Perhaps we should invest in a moat with alligators to keep the gays in, and to keep out those wandering straight people who define themselves as "curious." □

© 2011 Meryl Cohn. Address questions and correspondence to <msbehavior@aol.com>. She is the author of Do What I Say: Ms. Behavior's Guide to Gay and Lesbian Etiquette *(Houghton Mifflin). Signed copies are available directly from the author.*





LAV415_p51_66.indd 65 4/15/11 3:01 PM



Hold on Tight

With Mother's Day approaching on May 8, a son reminisces about his late mother.

"I PROMISE, POOH Bear. I promise."

These are the six last, exasperated words my mother ever spoke. She died on our living room sofa in 1998. I was at her side, begging her to promise me that everything was going to be OK. I was 11.

I still see my mother at her vanity, powdering her face, and putting on that signature cherry-red lipstick. She has rollers in her hair, and she's already wearing high heels, though she isn't leaving the house for a while. She always wears her heels, even when she's cooking. I like the sound of them clicking on the kitchen floor.

She's the Southern vixen, the magnolia firecracker: a woman of astonishing beauty, knife-like wit, and diabolical sense of humor.

As I watch my Mom get ready, I realize that I want to be like her. I want to be funny like her and sexy like her. I want to spend as much time with her as possible, so that I can absorb every aspect of who she is—including her power over men. Blush.

Tonight, she isn't on a date with her boyfriend, though. Tonight, she has a movie date with the man she loves most: her Pooh Bear. Me.

We take our seats at the movie theater in the middle of the auditorium, a giant tub of popcorn and a bucket-size cup of soda in tow.

Just before the movie begins, an enormous man plops down in front of me, blocking my view of the screen. Most mothers politely would ask the gentleman to move. Not mine.

"Watch this," she whispers, and reaches into the tub of popcorn, which is in my lap.



She looks around to make sure no one's watching, and launches a handful of popcorn at the back of the man's head.

The man in front of us turns around, and stares at me. I stare back, wide-eyed and speechless.

My Mom takes on the tone of a no-nonsense Southern mother: "Justin Jones! I can't believe you threw popcorn at this gentleman! Now, what do you say?"

"Uh….Sorry?" I respond.

The man grunts, and turns around. He moves to the back of the auditorium. My mother tickles me when he's gone, and we laugh about the incident all the way home.

She was something, all right—and to me, she was everything.

But things change. My mother and I witnessed her boyfriend's suicide when I was 6 years old. Guilt over the incident consumed her. She eventually turned to prescription medication to help cope with it, which she took too much of.

I find myself at her side on May 20, 1998, as she struggles for her last breaths. I'm begging her to promise me that she won't die, that everything will be OK.

"I promise, Pooh Bear….I promise."

She turns blue, and her arms around me go limp.

She's buried in the pink gown she wore to my brother's wedding.

After her funeral, I go home one more time. I head straight to her bedroom. It still smells like her.

I sit at her vanity. I run my fingers through her necklaces, caress her powder box, and feel her hair rollers. I brush my hair with the brush we use as a microphone. I spray her perfume, and watch White Diamonds float to the floor.

I want to remember everything about this place, where we laugh about dumb things, lip-synch to cassette tapes, and do the bonding that makes us mother and son. I want to memorize every scarf, every shoe, every earring. If I preserve every piece of who she was, maybe I can keep her forever.

When it's time to go, I walk as slowly as I can—in reverse—to the entrance of her bedroom. I picture me on her bed, watching her with rollers in her hair as she puts on her lipstick, and I squeeze my eyes shut to lock it in….

If you are fortunate enough still to have Mom around, don't forget her. When you see her next, give her a great big hug to show her how much she means. When it's time to pull away, hold her just a second longer for those who aren't as lucky.

Pull her close, and hold on tight. □

LAV415_p51_66.indd 66 4/15/11 3:01 PM

YES.

YOU HAVE ROOM FOR

ANOTHER.



GREAT BEER
GREAT RESPONSIBILITY®

©2011 MILLER BREWING CO., MILWAUKEE, WI

Per 12 oz., MGD 64 contains 64 calories, 2.4 grams of carbs, < 1g protein and 0.0g fat.

64 CALORIES.
12 FULL OUNCES.



MORE WAYS TO BE YOU.®

MOA
MALL OF AMERICA®

952.883.8800 • mallofamerica.com